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Vol. XLI. No. 12 DECEMBER 5th, 1940 Price 6d.

Special Articles This Month

Details of 1941 Acquisition
Trellising of Vines
South Australian News
Citrus, Dried and Canned Fruits
Home Section
Personal and Obituary Notes
Children's Handwriting Competition
Interstate Crop Reports
The Market Grower
Items from N.S.W.
Tasmanian News
Letters to the Editor
Market Reports
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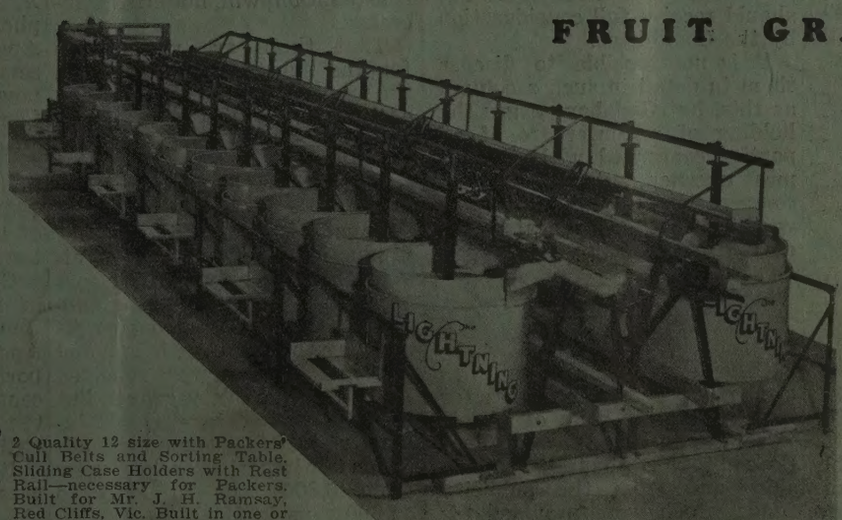

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PITHY BITS

By "Gadabout"

War: Bravo, Greece! You may be exemplifying the greatness of the past, but whether you are now capable of interpreting the traditions of the past or not, you have done a great job. **You muzzled Musso** and Hit-and-Miss Hitler hasn't moved.

The situation in the Balkans has changed. Italy's position in Africa will now be successfully challenged. The days of holding on are slowly passing. The days when the enemy will reel with war wounds are now approaching—**the fat is in the fire for Italy, and Greece has done it.**

Shipping.

The picture here is not so good. It vitally affects Australia. The record shipments of canned fruit is excellent, but we want more of other things. The hit-and-run tactics are always hard to deal with, but the strength of the British Navy is still unimpaired. The losses which have occurred now will bring about a concentration on the cause of the losses and the trawler and the gun-boat will win.

Sympathy and Air Raids.

Gallant men and women of England, we now in security, salute you. Our hearts bleed for you in your suffering, but our respect has grown to a reverence. This method of warfare is devilish, but what a picture of the ascendancy of human courage over suffering and death. The world has not known its equal before.

The Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee.

Its fate has been decided. The Committee will be in control for another 12 months, probably longer. The issue now is not: "Should it function?" but "How should it function?" Gadabout now urges all growers to unite behind the Committee. He urges an immediate conference between the Committee and representatives of the growers. This conference should not be limited to small numbers, but should be as representative as possible.

Without any waste of time the Committee should first declare its policy. The conference would then be called and every unit amongst growers and Committee alike should unite to improve the conditions for and on behalf of the growers and, through them, for Australia.

The qualifications of staff — The accountancy methods — Problems of cool storage—Getting back to standard packing and better grading—Widening the field of selling by freeing agents and growers and locating every possible facility for increasing sales—Fixing standard prices for season—The constitution of the committee itself — Some better means of handling fruit at markets where fruit is sold. All these and many other points should receive immediate attention.

Letter from Ex-Fruitgrower.

Gadabout has given full consideration to the letter from "Ex-Fruitgrower," and such comments as those set out should receive full consideration by the Committee.

It is not possible to discuss them in detail in such a column as this, **but Gadabout urges the holding of a conference of all parties concerned with the utmost urgency, but with a better co-operation and unity this year we need not see repeated the disabilities of last year.**

APPLE JUICE.

Considerable progress has been made in the campaign for increasing the sale of Apple juice. The Apple and Pear Board provided the initial leadership, and from the publicity funds which were provided for press and radio the sale of Apple juice products throughout Australia has been appreciably stimulated.

With the clearing of the stocks on hand the way will be clear for large developments in the coming season.

Popularising Apple Juices

Board to Issue Certificates

IN an endeavor to popularise fruit juices and to protect the public against inferior concoctions claimed to be pure fruit juices, the Apple and Pear Board proposes to issue seal certificates to manufacturers whose goods are analysed and come up to the standard required.

In this scheme the Board will have the co-operation of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research which will examine all manufactures submitted. Seals bearing the words **"This product is approved by the Australian Apple and Pear Board after examination of samples by the Food Preservation Laboratory of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.** The Board reserves the right to refuse approval should the product fail to reach the required standard or later fall below that standard.

Suitable publicity is being undertaken and it is anticipated that when the public knows the sealed products are obtainable, consumption will materially increase.

That there are possibilities for the substantial increase in the preparation and consumption of pure Apple juice was expressed at a recent conference of Apple juice manufacturers held at Melbourne under the auspices of the Australian Apple and Pear Board.

Statistics were examined showing the tremendous increase in Apple juice consumption in Canada, U.S.A. and the Continent. For instance, the consumption of Apple juice in Canada increased from 70,000 gallons in 1938 to 1,050,000 gallons in 1939. It was expected that the consumption would soon reach 3,000,000 gallons, which would take care of 1,020,000 bushels of Apples.

Owing to the activities of health associations and nutrition committees throughout Australia, there is now a greatly increased health consciousness amongst the people, hence the value of fruit juice of all kinds is now better recognised, and the Apple industry is organising to increase the production and distribution of pure Apple juice. This product contains vitamins A, B, C and G, pectin, phosphorus, calcium and iron. Pure Apple juice containing no preservatives or coloring matter is now on offer throughout the Commonwealth.

CANADIAN PRODUCTION.

Canada is fast increasing her production of fruit and vegetables, and not only is fresh consumption increasing, but canning is developing strongly. As showing the increase, it is noted that in 1935 there were reported 1,800 acres of celery grown, but in 1939 the acreage has increased to 2,500 acres. In addition her imports of celery grew from 6,800 tons in 1935 to 11,000 tons in 1939.

Onions produced in 1935 were grown on 6,500 acres, while 7,250 acres were sown in 1939, producing about 50,000 tons, of which 2,700 tons were exported (566 tons to New Zealand).

The production of **Apples** increased from 9,000,000 bushels in 1926 to 16,405,000 bushels in 1939, representing an average of 13,500,000 bushels in the past ten years.

Canada consumed an average of 26.025 lbs. Apples per person in the past five years. Of all Apples produced, Canada's exports have averaged 47.1 per cent. of her total crop in the past ten years of which 41.3 per cent. went to Great Britain.

But although Canada is increasing her fruit production, she still imports great quantities of fruit of different varieties. Since 1935 she has doubled her imports of Grapefruit to 70,000,000 lbs. and Lemon imports have risen to 400,000 boxes per year. Orange imports jumped from 2¼ million boxes in 1935 to 3½ million in 1939.

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News of the Month

Australian Agriculture and the War.

AN EXTREMELY VALUABLE summary of Australian agriculture as relating to war conditions was compiled by Prof. S. M. Wadham (Professor of Agriculture), University of Melbourne, and published in the November monthly Bulletin of the National Bank of Australasia Ltd. Despite problems, Professor Wadham says that the war-time advice to Australian rural industries to "carry on" is sound. The difficulties are frankly faced concerning wool, wheat, dairying, meat, seeds, and other items. The increasing problem of labor shortage is noted.

On the subject of fruit, Professor Wadham writes:—

"The position of exporting producers of fresh fruit became one of extreme difficulty immediately it became necessary to allot shipping space according to the nutritive value of the cargo. The Board, which endeavoured to control the situation, met with a barrage of organised criticism from specialised interests whose normal businesses were threatened. To the outside observer, it seemed that the activities of the Board started rather late in the season, while its efforts at counter propaganda were, for some reason or other, ineffective. With supplies about double the normal requirement of the local market, monetary loss was inevitable. There is little hope of improved conditions while the war continues . . . "

Obituary

Mr. A. S. M. Harrison.

The death of **Mr. A. S. M. Harrison,** on November 12, at the age of 59, removes a well known figure from the Australian fruit industry, and the Commonwealth loses a valued citizen. For the past 30 years Mr. Harrison was closely associated with the industry. After experience in the banking business he became manager of the Victorian Orchardists' Co-operative Association Ltd., and was widely esteemed. On his retirement from that position in 1918, he joined with Mr. Cecil Snider in founding the International Fruit and Mercantile Co., Melbourne. Mr. Harrison rendered unique services in projecting the plan which led to the formation of the Victorian Fruit Marketing Association, an association of growers and shippers for the better organising of the fruit export trade. The V.F.M.A. in turn became the founder of the Australian Apple and Pear Council.

Mr. Harrison suffered from indifferent health for some years, yet he was unfailing in his courtesy. His many friends hoped to the last that he would rally and continue his useful career, but it was not to be. At the time of his death he was a trade member of the Victorian Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee.

There was a large attendance at the funeral at the Eltham Cemetery. The pall bearers were Messrs. C. Snider, J. B. Mills (Apple and Pear Board), J. M. Ward (Superintendent of Horticulture), A. W. Schwennesen (Citrus Association), W. J. Perrett, G. Wilson, D. McIlroy and D. C. Black.

At the graveside there was a Masonic ceremony led by Wor. Bro. D. C. Black.

The late Mr. Harrison was the type of high minded, cultured citizen the State could ill afford to lose.

To the surviving widow and daughter, also to his brother, sincere sympathy is extended.

Another well-known fruit merchant passed away last month in the person of **Mr. Morris Silk.** He reached the advanced age of 94, during which some 30 years were spent in the fruit industry. His remains were placed in the Melbourne General Cemetery on November 25, when a large attendance of fruit men testified to his large

acquaintance in commercial circles.

His late wife pre-deceased him recently, and to the surviving relatives, Mrs. Finklestein (daughter), Hyman and Abraham (sons), of Melbourne, and Mr. Isadore (son), of Sydney, the sympathy of all is tendered.

Sympathy is extended to **Mr. J. W. Hammond**, a well-known fruitgrower of Officer, Victoria, whose wife was killed in a motor accident on November 13. It was a sad homecoming for Mr. Hammond, who was returning from the funeral of the late Mr. A. S. Harrison.

PERSONAL.

Mr. J. B. Randell was re-elected unopposed as President of the South Australian Fruit Marketing Association.

Personal Notes

Mr. Frank Petty, fruitgrower, of Mitcham, Vic., was cordially welcomed at the quarterly meeting of the Orchardists and Fruit Cool Stores Association of Victoria on November 29. Mr. Petty recently suffered a severe accident. The seat of his tractor gave way, and when he fell the discs of the plough passed over him, breaking several ribs and causing painful facial injuries. Mr. Petty is now restored to health.

Messrs. **T. H. Kneen**, B.Agr. Sc., **P. F. Marriott**, B.Agr.Sc., and **J. C. Walsh**, B.Agr.Sc., officers of the Victorian Department of Agriculture, formerly engaged in horticultural research and instructional work, have enlisted with the A.I.F. Lance Bombadiers Kneen and Marriott have been in training with the 2nd Anti-Aircraft Unit, and Lance Corporal Walsh is overseas with the 1st Australian Corps. The enlistment of these officers has necessitated a curtailment of some of the work of the Horticultural Division. **Miss Joan M. Cross**, Fruit Preserving Expert, has resigned from the Department to become Mrs. L. Strong, of Sydney.

Mr. B. S. B. Cook, a well-known journalist and organiser, and who was for several years manager of the Victorian Central Citrus Association Pty. Ltd., recently retired from active journalism. Fifty years ago Mr. Cook joined the Melbourne "Herald" staff and subsequently served on the "Argus" and with the Royal Automobile Club's journal "The Radiator." He was the first General Secretary of the Australian Journalists' Association and also served on the publicity staff of the Prime Minister's Department.

Mr. W. P. Hutchinson, of Somerville, Vic., one of the grower members on the Victorian Apple and Pear Acquisition Committee, is steadily recovering from the painful accident which befel him when his foot was severely cut with an axe.

Mr. F. G. Beet, fruitgrower, of Railway-road, Vermont, Victoria, went into a private hospital at the end of November after an operation. He is progressing well and looks forward to better health after this surgical treatment.

Departmental Changes in W.A.

Owing to deaths and retirements, several staff changes have recently taken place in the Horticultural Division of the Western Australian Department of Agriculture.

The death occurred of Mr. B. J. Gartland, Market Inspector, and Mr. A. S. Jackson, Fruit Fly Inspector. Mr. W. H. Read, Orchard Supervisor, retired on reaching the age limit.

Fresh appointments are: Mr. T. C. Miller, B.Sc. (Agric.), Agricultural Adviser, at present stationed at Manjimup; Mr. T. F. Herlihy, Orchard Supervisor, stationed at Manjimup, Mr. A. Doust, Market Inspector, Mr. O. Hanbury, Mr. K. Howatson, Mr. W. P. Fears, and Mr. E. H. Elkington, Fruit Fly Inspectors.

VISITOR FROM W.A.

Mr. Hector Price, of the Illawarra Orchard, Karragullen, W.A., was in Victoria during November.

Mr. Price states that under the stress of war conditions, an overwhelming majority of the W.A. growers are in favor of acquisition of the crop. He visited Doncaster and other Victorian fruitgrowing centres, and although he sensed the hostility of many local growers to the acquisition plan, he is still firmly convinced that it is the only logical method of dealing with the whole Australian crop in war time. At the same time he sympathised with growers who have spent a lifetime in handling their fruit in the Victoria Market, Melbourne. Mr. Price also took the opportunity of visiting the Victoria Dock Cool Stores to meet Dr. Heulin and Mr. Tindale, B.Sc., in order to find out the latest developments in fruit cool storage research.

W.A. Crops.

On the Illawarra orchard, Bartlett Pears are heavy. In the order of quantities there grown, Apples are showing as follows: Grannies, good; Dougherty, fairly heavy; Yates, medium to good; Cleo., medium.

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Crop Reports from All States

VICTORIA

The Department of Agriculture reports from District Inspectors for the coming season are as follows (the estimates are given in percentages of a normal full crop):—

Mornington Peninsula: Jonathan and most varieties Apples heavy, Democrats leading with 95 per cent., and Statesman lowest with 60 per cent. Apricots, all varieties 70 to 80; Plums 60 to 80; Pears, Keiffers on top with 80 per cent., Packhams 50, Nelis 60-70 but patchy, B. Bosc 75.

Swan Hill: Washington Navels 50 or less, little better at Murrabit. Valencias patchy at 60, Lemons good at 80, Grapefruit medium at 75, Mandarins light. Apricots good, Peaches heavy, Cherries very good.

North East: Apples—Jonathan averaging 75, Granny Smith varies from 25 to 75, Delicious same, Romes 50-25, K. Cole 25-75.

Kyabram: Pears, W.B.C. heavy at 95. Packhams 100, Josephine 90, W. Nelis 95, B. Bosc 100. Peaches all heavy at 100. Apricots blossoming poor with average at 75. Plums 75 to 80. Apples, Grannies 50, Tasma 60.

Gippsland: Jonathan, Granny and Stewarts 100, Statesman poor, Rome 60, Yates 75, Gravenstein 75, Rokewood 80. Pears, Williams 75, Bosc 50, Packhams 50. Bunyip all varieties heavy. Pears 50-75. Plums 75.

Diamond Creek: All Apples promise full crop, also Plums and Peaches. Apricots light. Pears, Bosc full crop, Packham low. Cherries heavy.

Burwood: Cherries mostly medium to full crop. Peaches, most varieties 100. Pears, Bosc leading with 100, others 60 to 75. Apples, medium to good.

Wandin and Silvan berries very good.

Geelong and Portland: Apples will be medium to heavy. Cherries, Geelong and Bacchus Marsh good. Pears good at Geelong. B. Marsh Apples, Yates lead at 100, Granny 80, Rome 75. Colac Apples average 75.

Shepparton: All Apple varieties full crop; canning Peaches 90-100. W.B.C. 70-80, Josephine and Packham 80-90. Apricots 60-70. Plums 70-80. Diseases at a minimum .

Bamawm: Pears, Bosc and Vicars 100; others 65-80. Apples all heavy. Apricots, Newcastle and Oullins 100, others 55-70. Peaches, Goodman and Golden Queen 100, Pullars and Hale 95, others 90. All vines 100. Citrus, Lemons 100, Oranges average 70.

Red Cliffs: Vines suffered from frosts. Waltham and Ohanez 90, others 80. Pears 85, Mandarins 90, others citrus 70.

Mildura: Vines, Gordos affected by frost, Walthams 90, others 85. Peaches 85. Pears 75, Apricots light owing to frost. Grapefruit, Lemons and Mandarins 85, others 75.

Merbein: Vines average 85, Pears 90, Prunes 85, Mandarins 90, Grapefruit 85, Valencia 65, Navels 70.

Box Hill District: Severe hail affected many orchards. Apples, Jonathan 100, Rome poor set, 50, others 90. Pears heavy except Packham 50. Peaches heavy. Plums fair 70. Generally speaking all fruit promises to exceed last year.

Bendigo District: Growers state unwanted varieties of Apples will not be harvested. Indications suggest second highest crop of Apples and Pears in history of districts.

Horsham: Apples, Granny 100, others average 90-95. Apricots 90. Peaches 85. Pears, Packham 95, others 70.

Somerville: John Brunning & Sons, nurserymen and fruitgrowers, report that generally speaking there appears to be a good, clean, well-developed crop showing, particularly in Jonathans. Delicious are somewhat patchy, whilst Rome Beauty, Five Crown, Granny Smith and Statesman are good. Tasman are only fair.

Pear crops, on the whole, are promising. Packhams, Broome Park, and Winter Cole, are good, and W.B.C. and B. Bosc, are from fair to good. Plums are fairly good, but Apricots are patchy.

Irymple (21/11/40): Crop prospects for the coming season are as follow:—

Sultanas: Sultana vines are showing a much lighter crop this season than for several years, and the general estimate is that crops will be about 20 per cent. under last season.

Currants: The Currant crop also promises to be much lighter than last year, and individual estimates range from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. down. The average will probably run to 30 per cent. under the 1940 crop.

Lexias: The Gordo crop is much heavier than last season, and general expectations are for an increase of 10 per cent.

The factors leading to reduction in 1941 season's crop are generally admitted to be the hot weather in the late Summer of 1940. This followed mild weather conditions during the Spring and mid-Summer. These conditions led to light watering and surface root development. The heat-wave of late Summer checked the surface growth and there was considerable loss of foliage from the vines, thus checking bud development for new crop. The damage is most noticeable on Currant vines and some acres will have to be cut back and new growth brought up to the wires.—P. Malloch.

Harcourt.

Mr. H. M. McLean states that the present estimate in Harcourt and district is for 800,000 to 1,000,000 bushels, which will be a record.

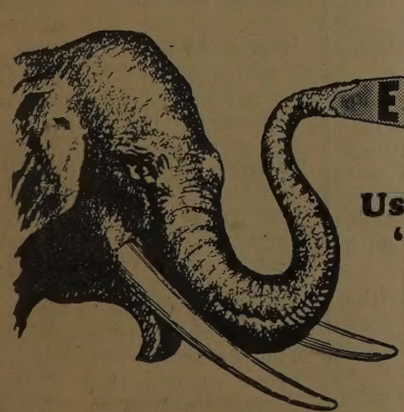
Practically every variety is very heavy, especially Granny Smith, Jonathans, Cleo, Dunns, Romes, Delicious.

In a few instances Pears have thinned, but majority of growers report heavy crops. Despite heavy cropping the whole of the fruit is well up to size and very clean. **Thinning out is being proceeded with to check the limbs from breaking.**

Growers report good crops of **Plums** and **Cherries,** which are in demand. Owing to the light rainfall and the subsoil not getting its usual soaking, irrigation has started earlier than usual, and the irrigation channels are running to their full capacity to supply the demand. To combat Codling Moth most growers have sprayed their orchards three times. Although with the testing out with lures up to date the infestations are lighter than other years, several growers are using a combination spray of arsenate and white oil.

Although the cool stores are still carrying a fair quantity of acquisition fruit, opportunity is being taken by the directors to push on with improvements in readiness for next season; extensive alterations to the coil tower are being made. The present fire service will be removed from the building and 1,200 feet of piping will be put underground and will be linked up with a separate electric motor housed away from the main building.

Both trading sheds are kept busy in supplying spray and orchard requests, and the local sawmill with a full staff are working overtime to supply orders, the Pine being obtained from the Mt. Alexander Pine Plantation.



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Extract from "BETTER FRUIT," by Dr. R. L. Webster, Entomologist, State College of Washington, Pullman: CODLING MOTH COVER SPRAYS—"Ever since the imposition of an arsenic tolerance in 1926, and even before that time, investigators have been testing other materials which may be used in place of lead arsenate. Following all these intensive and extensive investigations lead arsenate appears to have certain inherent qualities which place this material foremost as an insecticide for codlin moth control."

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Fruit Crop Prospects

Estimated Apple Crop Approximately 1,100,000 Bushels.

Pears 150,000 Bushels.

From a fruitgrowing standpoint, climatic conditions during 1940 have not been propitious, particularly in the non-irrigated areas. Rainfall has been very short in most districts, and in the absence of good subsoil wetting Winter rains, the ultimate crop prospects are somewhat in doubt.

There were damaging late Spring frosts. In some districts Apricots crops, where not heated, were completely destroyed. Subsequent frosts destroyed a proportion of various fruit crops, Grape vines in non-irrigated areas being most seriously affected; Apples and Pears have been destroyed in some districts, and in others blemished as a result of frost. Some frost damage has been experienced in the Murray Irrigation areas, but generally losses have been less serious and extensive than in the unirrigated districts.

Apples: Early indications were for an exceptionally large crop. Although the setting has not altogether fulfilled these expectations, nevertheless a heavy crop is in sight at the present time.

The following is the general position in respect of principal varieties:—Jonathan and Democrat, good to heavy; Cleo. and Granny, heavy; Romes, patchy, varying from light to heavy; Dunn's, fair to medium; Delicious, Londons, and Stone Pippin, and Rokewood, fair to good; Statesman, good.

On the present showing, the State Apple crop should amount to between 1,000,000 and 1,100,000 bushels. A minor proportion of the crop will show some frost blemish, and at this stage the effect of drought conditions upon fruit size is problematical.

Generally, fruit is clean, but Spring weather conditions have favoured some development of Scab upon foliage.

Pears: The general indications are for a Pear crop below normal. The chief canning variety, W.B.C., is patchy, showing light to good crops through the Mount Lofty Ranges, slightly below average crop in the lower north, and light to fair crops in irrigated areas. Packham, Howell, Keiffer, Lemon Bergamot, and Josephine range from light to fair. B. Bosc shows a good crop in some areas, but in others is only fair.

The State production will be light, and should approximate 75 per cent. of normal, i.e., in the vicinity of 150,000 bushels.

Plums and Prunes: Prunes and jam Plums fair to good. Jap. varieties somewhat above average. The total Plum crop should approximate to the normal seasonal average.

Apricots: Variable. In some districts, notably the Barossa Valley, Spring frosts occasioned heavy losses. Where unaffected by frost, crops are good to heavy, and for the district, a total crop approaching normal may be harvested. Although patchy in southern areas, the crop in irrigated areas of the Murray Valley promises 10-15 per cent. above normal. A normal crop is showing in the South East, but some hail damage has been reported.

Peaches: Generally heavy. In the irrigation areas and South Eastern districts, it is average to slightly above normal; on the Adelaide Plains, and in the Southern district, the showing is up to 20 per cent, better than average. Extensive thinning has been fairly generally practised. Some frost damage occurred in Lower Northern areas, but heavy crops offset damage so that a normal district return is in prospect.

Nectarines: Heavy crop promised. A normal crop is in sight throughout the Murray Irrigation areas, but in the Hills, Southern and Adelaide Plains districts crops should be 10-15 per cent. better than average.

Cherries: Early and mid-season varieties set good crops, but considerable losses were incurred in early varieties, due to wet weather. Late varieties, light to good. The total crop should approximate 10 per cent. below normal.

Berry Fruits: Strawberries have yielded a good first crop; prospects good for the second crop. Yields should be about average. Gooseberries normal; Raspberries and Loganberries are variable from fair to good.

Almonds: Generally light to fair only. Better crops are promised in the Murray irrigated areas than on the Adelaide Plains, where the prospective return is estimated to be 25 per cent. below average.

Oranges: Too early to estimate prospective citrus returns, but in all districts blooming of Oranges has been very light to light. Present indications point to a light Orange crop in 1941.

Tomatoes: Glasshouse Tomatoes on the Adelaide Plains promise to yield normal seasonal crops. Leaf Mould is considerably less prevalent than usual.

Wine Grapes: Except in the Barossa and Lower North areas, where late Spring frosts caused extensive losses, wine Grapes promise normal to good crops. In the Barossa Valley and Clare districts likely production is estimated at 33 per cent. below normal on account of frost and drought. In the South East, frost caused loss of up to 50 per cent. of some crops, and the district average will be low. In some areas the frost damage has been such that even 1942 crops will be affected.

Currants: In the Murray Valley, normal to slightly above average yields are expected. Average crops are promised in the Southern districts. In the Barossa Valley and north to Clare, extensive frost damage occurred. Throughout these latter areas it is expected that returns will be 30 per cent. below normal.

Sultanas: In the Murray Irrigation Areas, the show of bunches is generally below average. A crop of 10-15 per cent. below normal is indicated.

Gordos: Vines of this variety are showing excellent crops in irrigated areas and a crop of 20 per cent. above normal is anticipated.—A. G. Strickland, Chief Horticulturist, S. Aust. Dept. of Agriculture

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Balhannah (23/11/40): Mr. H. N. Wicks writes: This district is carrying a heavy crop of Apples and Pears, main varieties being Jonathan, Rome, Granny Smith, and in Pears Williams and Bosc.

A very successful **field day** was held on November 5, when about 200 growers and others attended. Special interest was shown in the central spray outfit, and the irrigation system, both of which are driven with Diesel power.

Although too early to see the nursery at its best, current work was inspected, and after a good inspection of the property a meeting was held in the packing shed where various questions were answered which had been prompted during the inspection.

The day was held under the auspices of the Agricultural Bureau, and the chairman of the Advisory Board of Agriculture was present, also Mr. Spafford, the Director of Agriculture, and the Secretary, H. C. Pritchard. The day was opened by Mr. R. Martin, a member of the Advisory Board.

Gumeracha, S. Aust., 27/11/40.

Re Crop Prospects: Throughout this district the chief lines of fruit produced are Apples (export varieties largely preponderating), Pears, and Plums.

Apples are showing for a good average to heavy crop in all varieties, the exception being where, owing to a severe frost on November 15, about 80 per cent. to 90 per cent. of the crop was completely destroyed and the balance shows considerable injury when the fruit is cut open. There would I think, be in the vicinity of 100 acres of orchard involved.

Pears are showing for a fair to good average crop, and the same would describe the Plum crop prospects.

An exceptionally large number of Codling Moth are visible on the wing and being collected in the lures where these are used. It looks as though a pretty large arsenate spray programme will have to be followed

BRITAIN BANS FRUIT IMPORTS.

As we go to press, cabled advice is to hand that owing to the shipping problem Britain has decided to stop imports of all fruit (except Oranges) and canned fruit. The Commerce Department states that they are in close contact with the British Government re the shipping of present stocks, and proposals are being discussed for dealing with the coming pack. The Canned Fruits Board is shortly meeting.

Officials of the Dried Fruits Board do not consider that Australian dried fruits come under the category of the fruits to be banned.

South African Problems.

South African fruitgrowers are alarmed at the announcement by the British Minister of Food, Lord Woolton, that canned fruits and certain fresh fruits are not to be imported into England. It is understood that South African fruitgrowers stand to lose £500,000 if the ban is to be applied in the coming season. The Australian Associated Press reports that South Africa planned to export 20,000 tons of fresh fruit and 8,000 tons of pulped fruit. Failing export a severe glut appears inevitable unless other arrangements are made.

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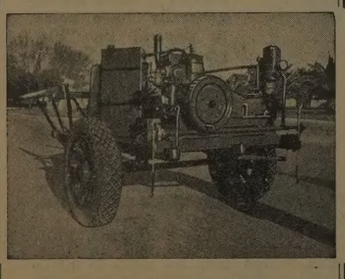

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Crop Reports from All States (Cont'd)

this season if clean fruit is to be secured.

At present most of the men on the land are very busy with meadow hay. A shortage of available labor is to a considerable extent slowing down the pace at which seasonal activities are being attended to.

Tomato planting is in full swing where these are grown, and judging by the very large quantity of seed **Potatoes** in cool store, there is likely to be a largely increased area under that crop this season. Most of these go in during the last half of December and early January.

A very great amount of dissatisfaction is being expressed at the proposal to pay S.A. growers of Apples in Group 1 sixpence a case less than is proposed for Victoria. Every endeavour is being made to have this injustice put right, as it is regarded as altogether unfair and inequitable.—J. B. Randell.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas.

(By Our Correspondent.)

Vines of all varieties are showing up for an exceptionally heavy crop if nothing unforeseen occurs, and they have made enormous growth for so early in the season.

The Apple crop, which earlier in the season was considered by some to be somewhat light generally, has turned out to be very much better than anticipated, and in fact some extra heavy crops have been noted. Where the lighter cropping has occurred is generally on farms where the cultivation has been indifferent, and the moisture content of the soil irregular, and it is the opinion of many growers that these two factors combined with satisfactory pollination are absolutely necessary in order to give a fair setting of fruit under our climatic conditions.

Variation of temperature or high winds at blossoming time is also a contributing cause of failure to crop, but this season the crop of Granny Smith Apples on these Areas will undoubtedly be greater than it was generally thought to be earlier in the season.

The season is still early yet, and other unforeseen circumstances such as hail or severe winds may yet occur, but the prospects so far are for a fairly good crop generally.

Pears, particularly Williams, are good, with Packhams lighter, and Josephines good to fairly heavy.

Prunes: D'Agens are fairly good to medium crops, with Robes decidedly lighter, although some good crops of the latter variety, have been noted.

Plums: A fairly heavy setting of Angelina, and some of the Japanese varieties are noted, the earlier varieties appearing to have set rather better than the later maturing types.

Quinces: Very fair settings, a considerable area is planted to this fruit, which has realised good payable prices during the past few seasons.

:: :: ::

Vegetables of all descriptions have been fetching good prices in the Sydney markets, and Peas during the past week rose considerably in value. Many large patches of carrots can be seen while travelling through the fruit areas, and most notably on those farms worked by Italians.

Tomatoes: There will probably be a fair acreage of these grown again this year for canning purposes, and with the great demand for vegetables for camps under Government control, an impetus will probably be given to vegetable growing, particularly of the good keeping varieties such as Pumpkins, etc.

Apricot Crop: Generally very good with some heavy crops.

Peaches: Good to medium.

Citrus: A fair quantity of Valencias still remain on the trees, and picking of these will probably still continue for some weeks, while a few blocks of Grapefruit are also still to be harvested.

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The New Zealand market has absorbed a considerable quantity of Valencias and Lemons, and the prices are expected to be satisfactory.

Goulburn: Dry weather conditions suggest that the earlier estimate of fruit crop prospects will be less favorable than was reported a month ago. Heavy blossom fall is reported and Apple and Pear crops will be from medium to good, Peaches fair to medium, and Apricots only fair.

Orange, N.S.W. (Mr. W. E. West): Since writing my last report on crop prospects, a cold snap has upset what promised to be a good crop of all fruits.

Cherries: Early Lyons and Napoleons are good, while Florence, St. Margaret, and Blk. Republicans are light.

Plums: Presidents have thinned out badly, others fair to good.

Pears: With the exception of Williams, which are fair to good, other varieties have thinned badly.

Apples: From present indications I think Apples, all varieties, are going to shed badly, leaving only a medium crop.

Grapes are looking well and promise a nice crop.

Reports to hand from the several fruit-growing centres so far indicate substantial crops of Apples and Pears in 1941.

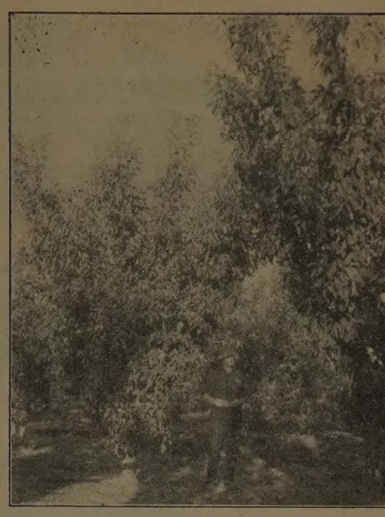
Good rains have fallen in many of the districts, and conditions are favorable so far. Further rains will be necessary, however, to keep the crops moving and to fill out the fruit.

THINNING OUT.

There were many complaints this season regarding the large proportion of small sized Apples.

In Sydney small Apples were difficult to clear, even at low prices.

Growers are advised to attend to the thinning of the crops so that Apples of a commercial size will be available for marketing.



Granny Smith Apple tree on Mr. E. A Crisp's orchard at Young, N.S.W.

TASMANIA.

A cold change, frost and snow caused considerable damage to crops in the Huon and Derwent Valley, and hail in the Peninsula districts. Crop prospects, however, are good in Apples and Pears, Grannies and Democrat appear best with Jonathan, Cox, Crofton, Scarlet and Cleo. in that order, orchards look well and have had adequate rain.

Less re-working is being done owing to labor shortage and the uncertainty regarding marketing. Classes for women to learn grafting have been started in some districts. Varieties being reworked include K. Pippin and French Crab. Bud development has been rapid.

Few reports of black spot have been received, but with heavy rains this must be closely watched and control sprays prepared. Nicotine sulphate is urged for canary fly, which is showing early this year.

Stone fruits have set heavily in many areas. Berry areas were damaged by snow after being previously well forward. Gooseberries are earlier than usual.

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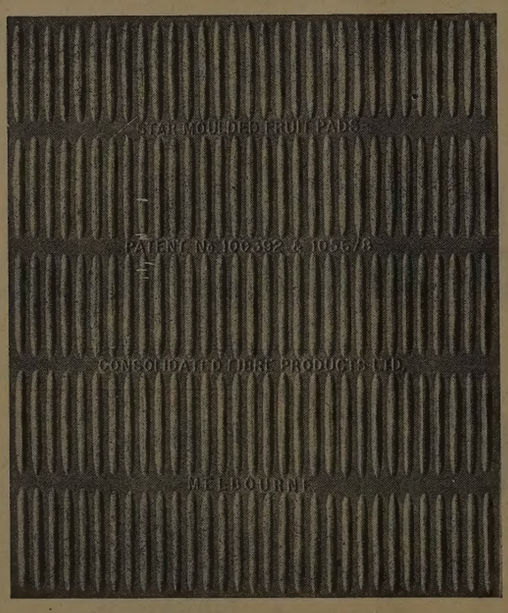

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SIZES:—12 x 6, 13½ x 6, 12 x 14, 17½ x 8, 17½ x 11.

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CROP REPORTS—(Contd.)

Frost Damage in Some Districts.

That there has been serious frost damage in some of the main Apple and Pear districts of Tasmania is stated in a letter dated November 28 from Mr. P. H. Thomas, Chief Horticulturist, Tasmanian Department of Agriculture. Mr. Thomas states the information as to crop prospects in Tasmaina is now being collated and this will form the subject of an early report.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Western Australian fruit crop prospects at the present time in this State are somewhat indefinite, states the Supt. of Horticulture, Mr. H. R. Powell in a letter dated November 19. Flowering was very heavy on most varieties of **Apples,** a notable exception being Dunns — trees that bore heavy crops last season made a very poor showing of blossom this year. However, present indications are that the crop will be fairly good, as in many districts shedding has been heavy, particularly on Apples of the Yates variety, and to a lesser extent on Jonathans.

Pears generally have not made a heavy setting, and some varieties are definitely light.

Stone fruit crops are not altogether good as many types, including English Plums, late Apricots and some varieties of Japanese Plums, are very light.

Citrus, after a very heavy flowering, appear to have set a good crop, but shedding is not yet completed.

Donnybrook, 25/11/40.

So far this season I have not seen any heavy Apple and Pear crops, though many fair crops. In this district (Donnybrook centre) indications are as follows:—

Apples: Granny Smith, light to medium; Cleos. and Jonathan, medium; Dunns, patchy, Delicious, medium.

Pears: Bartletts and Comice, light; W. Coles and Jos., medium; W. Nelis, light.

High prices are being obtained for stored Apples and early fruits.

Soft fruits are generally light, except some varieties of Jap. Plums.

Climatic conditions are good, cultivation about finished, and orchards in fair condition.

G. SHARP.

REGISTRATION OF ORCHARDS.

W.A. Regulations.

With the object of raising funds for the provision of additional temporary inspectors and control measures to combat the menace of Mediterranean Fruit Fly in Western Australia, provision was made last year, under the Plant Diseases (Registration Act) for an increase of orchard registration fees. The fees are now, all orchards of less than one acre 1/-, all orchards over an acre 2/6 per acre with a maximum total fee of £2/10/-.

In addition to inspection, the Agricultural Department will utilise educational posters and porpaganda to acquaint the public of the life history of the fly and with control measures that tree owners must adopt to control the pests. At present there are seven inspectors at work and more may be appointed if the work demands this action.

Following our enquiry, Mr. H. Powell, Supt. of Horticulture reports that much good work has been done in districts fairly heavily infested, and fruit fly has been considerably reduced. The majority of growers in fruit-growing districts are giving full co-operation, whilst small owners of trees, in towns, are being instructed in the matter of their co-operation, so that, to date, few prosecutions have been necessary.

Mr. J. McN. Martin, of Mt. Barker, President W.A. Fruitgrowers' Association, writing under date November 29, states: I have been in touch with Sth. West. fruitgrowers, also Hills growers, too.

The general consensus of opinion is that in their districts, mid-season Apples and Pears are heavy to very heavy, late varieties medium to light.

In the Mt. Barker district on the whole, the crop is heavy.

Stone fruit is patchy, some growers having heavy crops and growers a few miles away light to nearly bare; the gross result is I am informed a medium to light stone fruit crop, if averaged for the State.

The main scions in demand this year in Tasmania are, Apples: Red Jonathan, Crofton, Granny Smith and Delicious; while amongst Pears they are Packham's Triumph, Comice and Winter Cole.

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1941 Australian Apple and Pear Crop

ACQUIRED BY COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT.

Differential Payments for Varieties and Grades in the Several States.

ACQUISITION of the 1941 crop of Apples and Pears (except Pears for canning) by the Federal Government, was announced on November 23 by the Assistant Minister for Commerce (Mr. Anthony).

The acquisition applies to the entire crop of Apples from the beginning of the season and not from March 1 as in 1940. The other difference from the 1940 plan is that the fruit will have to be produced to maturity before it is acquired.

Fruit produced suitable for delivery but not actually delivered, will be the subject of compensation on the approval of the Minister.

High Quality Essential.

"It is most important," continued Mr. Anthony, "that growers should understand that they are responsible for the quality of the fruit produced. Great care will therefore be needed in all cultural operations, as the returns to the grower will depend on the effectiveness of his work."

Varieties have been appraised and units allotted in accordance with estimates of market value. The unit value was 6d. as consistently sought by growers' organisations.

Schedules of varieties, sizes and prices are set out hereunder.

Mr. Anthony subsequently drew attention to the inevitable chaos if 5,000,000 cases of Apples and Pears, usually exported, were left uncontrolled on the Australian market. The glut would mean disaster, not only for growers of Apples, but for growers of other fruits, too.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Apples—Varieties, Qualifying Sizes and Rates of Advance.

Group 1 — (a) Del., Demo., G.S., Jon., Graven., Legana, Beauty of Bath, Williams Fav., Willie Sharp, Carrington, Kirk's Seedling, Cowell's Red, Cleop., Summer Strawberry, Statesman, Rome, Peasgood, Twenty Ounce, Mobb's Royal, Lady Daly, Trivett, Lord Nelson, Warner's King. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. min., 2/-.

(b) C.O.P., Crofton, Dougherty, Yates. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2½ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2⅝ in. min. not qualifying.

Group 2—(a) Aust. Beauty, Scarlet, Tasman's Pride, Geeveston F., Golden Delicious, King Cole, Duke of Clarence, Nickajack, Rokewood, Stone P., Sturmer, Dunns, McIntosh Red, Stayman, Buncombe, Worcester. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(b) F. Crab, Ballarat (Stewart's), Alf., Londons, Prince Alfred. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2⅛ in. min., 1/-.

Group 3—Alex., Ben Davis, Pomme de N., Ranelagh, Pioneer, Schroeder, Wellington P., Yapeen, Coleman, Auradell, Crow Egg, Spitzen., K. David, King. Pippin, Newtown Pippin, Ribston, Strawberry Pippin. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 1/-. Good, not qualifying.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Pears—For Sale as Fresh Fruit.

Group A—W.B.C. X.F. and F., 2½ or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/6. Good, 2½ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/6.

Group 1 — (a) Packham's, D. du Comice. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(b) Jos., B. D'Anjou, W. Nelis. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(c) W. Cole. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2¼ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2⅛ in. min., 3/-.

Group 2—(a) B. Bosc, B. Hardy. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Lemon Bergamot, Glou Morceau, Mde. Cole. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

Group 3—(a) Keiffer. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(b) Clapp's Fav., Giblins, B. Easter. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(c) Any other var. required for marketing will be compensated on a basis of quality and size to be determined.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Apples.

Group 1—(a) Del. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Granny Smith. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 4/9. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/6. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(c) Demo., McIntosh R., Rome, Williams' Fav., Jon., Stayman, Legana, W. Sharp, Grav., Statesman, Beauty of Bath, Carrington, Kirk's S., Cowell's Red. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(d) Peasgood, Warner's King, Trivett, Lord Nelson, Lady Daly, Twenty Ounce, Mobb's Royal. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in., min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(e) C.O.P., Dougherty, Crofton, Yates. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 2/-.

Group 2—(a) Cleo., Dunns, Rokewood, Duke of Clarence, Buncombe, Aust. Beauty, Sturmer, Stone P., Golden Del., Scarlet, Tasman's P., Nickajack, King Cole, Geeveston F. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(b) Worcester. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(c) French Crab, Alf., P. Alfred, Stewart's, Londons. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2½ in. min, 2/-. Good, 2½ in. min., 1/-.

Group 3—Alex., Ribson, King P., Spitz., Ranelagh, Ben Davis, Strawberry P., Newtown, Wellington, Pioneer, Pomme de N., Auradell, Yapeen, Schroeder, K. David, Crow Egg, Coleman, X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 1/-. Good, not qualifying.

Typical seasonal scene in the Mt. Barker (W.A.) Co-operative Packing House.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Pears.

Group A—W.B.C., X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/6. Good, 2½ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/6.

Group 1 — (a) Packham's, D. du Comice. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(b) Jos., B. D'Anjou, W. Nelis. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(c) W. Cole. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2¼ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2⅛ in. min., 3/-.

Group 2—(a) B. Bosc, B. Hardy. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Lemon Berg., G. Morceau, Mde. Cole. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

Group 3—(a) Keiffer. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(b) Clapp's Fav., Giblins' S., B. Easter. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(c) Other vars. on basis of quality and size.

QUEENSLAND.

Apples.

Group 1—(a) Jon., Grav., Statesman, Carrington, G.S., Legana, Beauty of Bath, Kirk's S., Del., McIntosh R., Williams' Fav., Cowell's R., Demo., Stayman, W. Sharp. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Peasgood, Mobb's Royal, Trivett, Warner's King, Twenty Ounce, Lady Daly, Lord Nelson. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(c) C.O.P., Crof., Dty., Yates. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2⅝ in. min. 2/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 2/-.

Group 2 — (a) Rome, Roke., K. Cole, Aust. Beauty, Cleo., Tasman's P., Stone P., Dunns, Geeveston F., Duke Clarence, Scarlet, Sturmer, Golden Del., Nickajack. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. or better, 1/-.

(b) Worc. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(c) F. Crab, Alf., Londons, P. Alfred, Stewart's. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2½ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2½ in. min., 1/-.

Group 3 — Alex., Ribston, King P., Spitz., Ranelagh, Ben Davis, Strawberry P., Newtown P., Wellington P., Pioneer, Pomme de N., Auradell, Yapeen, Schroeder, Buncombe, K. David, Crow Egg, Coleman. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. or better, 1/-. Good, not qualified.

QUEENSLAND.

Pears.

Group 1 — (a) W.B.C., Packham's, D. du Comice. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(b) Jos., B. D'Anjou, W. Nelis. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(c) W. Cole. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2¼ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2⅛ in. min., 3/-.

Group 2—(a) B. Bosc, B. Hardy. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Lemon Berg., G. Morceau, Madam Cole. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

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(c) Other vars. on basis of quality and size.

VICTORIA.

Apples.

Group 1 — (a) Del., Demo., G.S., Jon., Grav., Legana, Beauty of Bath, Williams' Fav., W. Sharp, Carrington, Kirk's S., Cowell's R., Cleo., Statesman, Rome. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Peasgood, Twenty Oz., Mobb's, Lady Daly, Trivett, Lord Nelson, Warner's King. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

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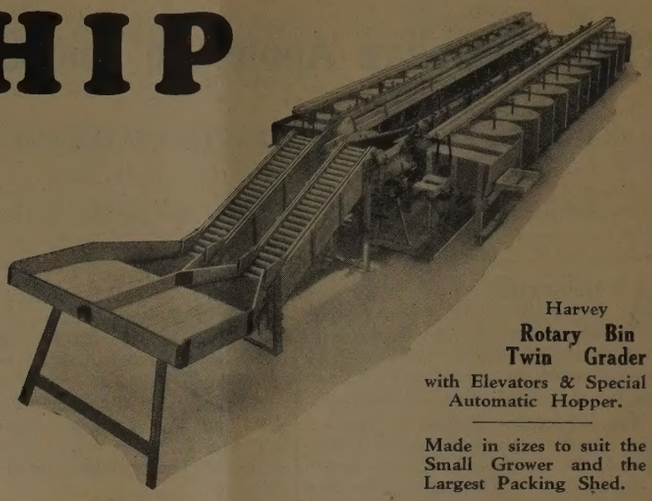
LEADERSHIP

Maintained by

DANIEL HARVEY LTD.

INTRODUCING

Rotary Bin Grading Equipment



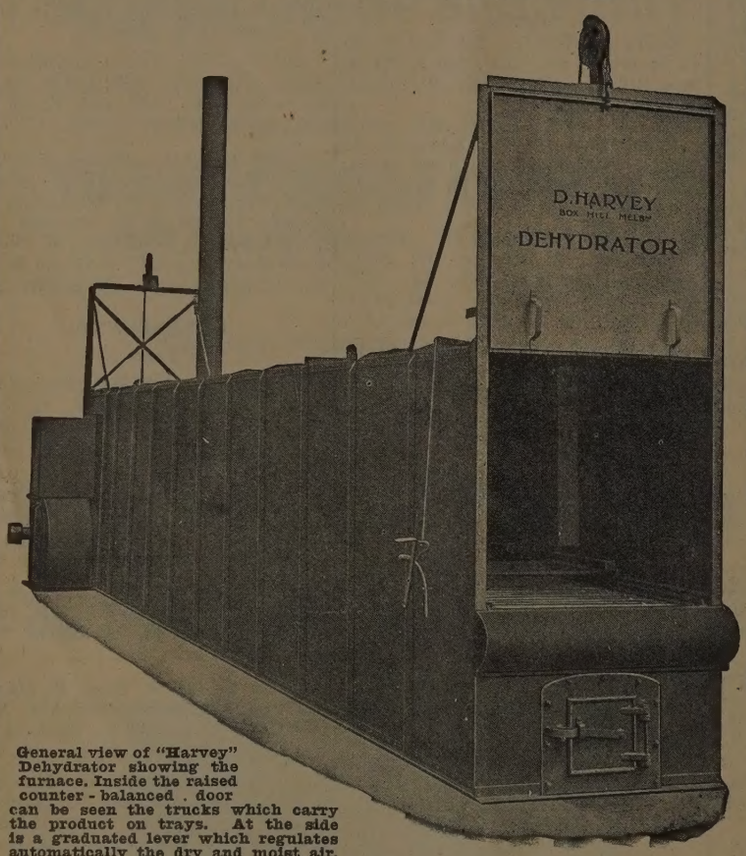
Harvey
Rotary Bin Twin Grader
with Elevators & Special Automatic Hopper.

Made in sizes to suit the Small Grower and the Largest Packing Shed.

OUTSTANDING ADVANTAGES:

"Harvey" Rotary Bins considerably increase average daily output.
Stem punctures and bruising eliminated.
The packing surface in the bin slowly passes the Packer—no pawing of fruit by Packer.
Packers average 10% to 15% more output per day with less fatigue.
Handles the most tender variety of Apples and Pears without injury.
Deflectors to run the predominating sizes into two or more bins—no time lost by throwing the major bulk of work on to one or two Packers.

Citrus Graders, Citrus Polishing Machines and Packing House Equipment



General view of "Harvey" Dehydrator showing the furnace. Inside the raised counter-balanced door can be seen the trucks which carry the product on trays. At the side is a graduated lever which regulates automatically the dry and moist air. The blower and stack are shown in the distance.

BRYTENE PLANTS
CITRUS PROCESSING PLANTS
SORTING TABLES
LIDDING PRESSES
WAXING PLANTS
GRAVITY CONVEYORS
CANNERY GRADERS
CITRUS WASHING & STERILISING PLANTS (Hot or Cold)
COOL STORE TROLLIES AND TRUCKS
DEHYDRATORS
CITRUS POLISHING MACHINES
TOMATO GRADERS
PASSIONFRUIT GRADERS

The "Harvey" Citrus Washing Plants

SAVE SPACE — CAN BE USED WITH HOT OR COLD WATER.

Fruitgrowers—

The "Harvey" Air Re-Circulation Dehydrator

Solves the Problem of Marketing The Fruit Crop

SUCH AS APPLES, PEARS, PRUNES, APRICOTS, PEACHES, SULTANAS, Etc.

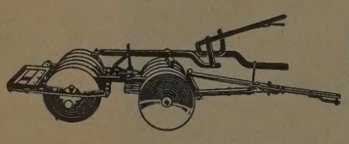
It is the best, cheapest, and most efficient type of dehydrator known. Used by all the most up-to-date Packing Houses and Sheds.

Large Output — Economical to Operate

The Fruit is placed in one end and comes out at the other dried to Perfection.

REMOVE SPRAY WITH THE "HARVEY" NEW HORSE HAIR BELT TYPE POLISHING MACHINE.

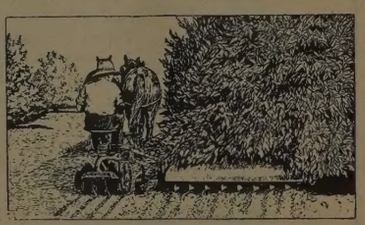
"HARVEY" IMPLEMENTS *Make Good Work Easy*



"HARVEY" PATENT OFFSET TANDEM DISC CULTIVATOR: Cultivates right up to the butts of the trees or vines while the Tractor is driven right out in the middle of the row.

Proved to be an excellent machine for deeply cultivating heavy irrigation land.

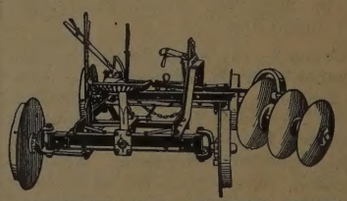
A Harvey Implement for Every Need



"HARVEY" 3-FURROW TRACTOR POWER LIFT HB7 MOULDBOARD ORCHARD PLOW: A one-man job. Built in sizes from two to six furrows.

THE BEETLEBACK cuts out all hand working under citrus trees, and keeps the ground level.
It lifts up the branches, cultivates under them, and gently replaces them on the ground.

THE "HARVEY" LANCIA DISC PLOW is designed specially for the hardest kind of plowing. Low overhead clearance for low overhanging trees. Can be racked over for both plowing close up to and away from the trees. Equipped with the famous **"HARVEY"** Power Lift or Screw Lifts which are operated from the seat of the Tractor.



"HARVEY" built "PETTY" PLOW: Plows out strips which have not been plowed for years. Cuts through couch grass with the greatest of ease. Also plows up to the trees and in the centre. **DISC CULTIVATING GANG** can be attached in place of Disc Plow Gang.

Agents in All States

FRUIT GROWERS, VIGNERONS and CITRUS GROWERS — OBTAIN YOUR REQUIREMENTS FROM:—

DANIEL HARVEY LIMITED

Orchard Implement Specialists
BOX HILL, VICTORIA

INTERSTATE REPRESENTATIVES—

N.S.W.—Tractors & Machinery Pty. Ltd., 131 Palmer St., Sydney.
S.A.—Gilbert, Sharp & Bishop, Rundle St., East Adelaide.
W.A.—Paterson & Co. Ltd., St. Georges Terrace, Perth.
Southern Tasmania—Southern Implement & Machinery Coy., Market Place, Hobart.
Queensland: Buzacott (Queensland) Ltd., 443 Adelaide St., Brisbane.
S.A.—Cole & Woodham, Box 12, Renmark.

PAYMENTS FOR VARIETIES OF APPLES & PEARS—(Ctd.)

Group 2 — (a) Aust. Beauty, Scarlet, Tasman's P., Geeveston F., Golden Del., K. Cole, Duke Clarence, Nickajack, Roke., Stone P., Sturmer, Dunns, McIntosh, Stayman. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(b) Worc. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(c) F. Crab, Alf., P. Alfred, Stewart's, Londons. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

Group 3 — Alex., Ribston, King P., Coleman, Ranelagh, Ben Davis, Strawberry P., Spitz., Wellington P., Pioneer, Pomme de N., Newtown P., Auradell, Yapeen, Schroeder, Buncombe, K. David, Crow Egg. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 1/-. Good, not qualifying.

VICTORIA.

Pears.

Group A—W.B.C., X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/6. Good, 2½ in. or better, 3/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/6.

Group 1—(a) Packham's T., D. du Comice. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(b) Jos., B. D'Anjou, W. Nelis. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 3/-.

(c) W. Cole. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. or better, 5/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 4/-. Good, 2¼ in. or better, 3/6. Good, 2⅛ min., 3/-.

Group 2 — (a) B. Bosc, B. Hardy. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2½ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) Lemon Berg., G. Morceau, Mde. Cole. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 3/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

Group 3 — (a) Keiffer. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(b) Clapp's Fav., Giblin's, B. Easter. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(c) Black Achan. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2½ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(d) Other vars. basis of quality and size.

TASMANIA.

Apples.

Group 1 — (a) Del., Demo., G.S., Jon., Grav., Legana, Beauty of Bath, Williams' Fav., W. Sharp, Carrington, Kirk's, Cowell's, Cleo., Peasgood, Twenty Oz., Mobb's R., Lady Daly, Trivett, Lord Nelson, Warner's King. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) C.O.P., Crofton, D'ty., Yates. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. X.F. and F., 2⅝ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2⅝ in. min. not qualifying.

Group 2—(a) Aust. Beauty, Scarlet, Tasman's P., Geeveston F., Golden Del., King Cole, Duke Clarence, Nickajack, Roke., Stone P., Sturmer, Dunns, Rome B., McIntosh, Statesman, Stayman, Worcester. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min. 1/-.

(b) F. Crab, Stewart's, Alf., Londons, P. Alfred. X.F. and F., 2½ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2½ in. min. 1/-.

Group 3 — Alex., Ben Davis, Pomme de N., Ranelagh, Pioneer, Schroeder, Wellington, Yapeen, Coleman, Auradell, Crow Egg, Spitz., K. David, King P., Newtown P., Ribston P., Strawberry P., Buncombe. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 1/-. Good, not qualifying.

TASMANIA.

Pears.

Group A—W.B.C., X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 4/-. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/6. Good, 2½ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/6.

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(b) Clapp's Fav., Giblins, B. Easter. X.F. and F., 2½ in. or better, 2/6. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, not qualifying.

(c) Other vars. on basis of quality and size.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Apples.

Group 1 — (a) Del., Demo., G.S., Jon., Grav., Legana, Beauty of Bath, Williams' Fav., W. Sharp, Carrington, Kirk's S., Cowell's R., Cleo., Peasgood, Twenty Oz., Mobb's R., Lady Daly, Trivett, L. Nelson, Warner's King. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-.

(b) C.O.P., Croft., D'ty., Yates. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 3/-. X.F. and F., 2⅛ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2⅝ in. min. not qualifying.

Group 2 — (a) Aust. Beauty, Scarlet, Tasman's P., Geeveston F., Golden Del., K. Cole, Duke of Clarence, Nickajack, Roke., Stone P., Sturmer, Dunns, Rome, McIntosh, Statesman, Stayman, Worcester. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2¼ in. min., 1/-.

(b) F. Crab, Stewart's, Alf., Londons, P. Alfred. X.F. and F., 2½ in. min., 2/-. Good, 2½ in. min., 1/-.

Group 3—Alex., Ben Davis, Pomme de N., Ranelagh, Pioneer, Schroeder, Wellington P., Yapeen, Coleman, Auradell, Crow Egg, Spitz., K. David, King P., Newtown P., Ribston P., Strawberry P., Buncombe. X.F. and F., 2¼ in. min., 1/-. Good, not qualifying.

X.F.: Extra Fancy. F.: Fancy.

:: :: ::

The quality qualifying is: all extra fancy and fancy grades; also "good" grades of varieties in groups 1 and 2 at the lower rate classifications scheduled.

Costs involved in effecting deliveries are to be recouped to growers at rates to be determined by the Marketing Committee in respect of services and materials, but exclusive of: (a) Costs of harvesting; (b) The provision of containers for harvesting (where such are distinct from containers for storage and sale); (c) Transport to the gate of property.

Pending payment of advances or delivery costs, the Marketing Committee may make progress payments.

Handling the 1941 Apple Crop

LETTERS FROM CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor,
"Fruit World."
Sir,—

The approach of the 1941 Apple and Pear season, with only local and interstate markets assured, cannot be viewed except with the utmost concern by all thinking growers. The situation calls for the whole-hearted support of the industry to introduce some scheme which will be of immense value to the industry, not only during the period of war, but which should place the industry on a sound commercial basis after the war.

With this object in view, I submit the following scheme for **direct distribution of Apples** to all inland areas, feeling quite confident that if put in operation throughout the whole of the States, could and would absorb the whole crop, and at the same time create a desire for the fruit which in after years will result in greatly increasing the home consumption, and would leave only a small surplus to be exported, which could then be disposed of at reasonable commercial values.

I would have an agent or selling representative in every place throughout the various States large enough to have a post or money order office. This would assure that distribution would be complete.

All agents to give a fidelity bond of an amount to be agreed on which would vary according to the population of the areas.

The agent to canvass for sale of Apples, received in bulk, distribute, and forward payment to headquarters weekly.

In order to enable this to be satisfactorily carried out it would be necessary to arrange with the railways a flat rate per case in say 20 cases or half-ton lots by goods train. Prices could then be advertised in papers and also through the medium of wireless. The factors which must be taken into serious consideration to assure success of the scheme are:

1. Prices to be within the reach of all, this I would suggest be about 6/- for group 1 and 5/- group 2.

2. Fruit be to standard grades and properly packed.

3. That all fruit be freshly packed prior to despatch. The last two conditions would be assured by forwarding the orders to packing sheds rather than to individual growers.

Re prices—I have suggested 6/- and 5/- respectively for groups 1 and 2, as I believe any higher price than that would seriously curtail sales, at the same time being well aware they will scarcely cover expenses.

But from the point of view of probably disposing of the whole of the crop and an unusually large proportion as it is picked from the trees (thus relieving cold storage congestion, additional handling and waste), the small loss would be amply justified and would be made good by increased values later.

I have had long and wide experience in distribution of fruit and unhesitatingly say, that, if some scheme along these lines is adopted the whole of the crop would be satisfactorily disposed of and consumed, and a general desire for fruit created throughout the whole population.

Success can only be assured by the Board adopting and running this scheme and creating their own direct distribution. Through other avenues it would be foredoomed to failure.

D. C. BLACK.
Pakenham Upper, Vic.,
24/11/40.

THE ACQUISITION PLAN.

Reply to "Statesman."

The Editor,
"Fruit World."
Sir,—

The main difference I can see between 1937, with its open marketing and record yield of Apples, and 1940, with its so-called "orderly marketing" and normal quantities, is that consumers now pay more and growers get less.

The wastage of fruit at the end of the 1937 season was mainly caused by over supply, and the avariciousness of certain growers. In 1940, by an unwanted and ill-advised scheme and bad business methods. "Statesman" says that "without a control scheme for 1941, chaos is inevitable. This is **an opinion.** With disheartened growers and neglected orchards. With dissatisfied fruiterers and consumers, the 1940 Acquisition scheme produced chaos which is **a fact.**

To avoid a repetition of last year's fiasco, I, like many others, believe that the Government has only to relieve the market of the export surplus. Although costing the Government considerably less than Acquisition, this will advantage both producer and consumer, as the heavy overhead charges which are always a feature of Board control, will be removed.

Yours truly,
G. E. HANDASYDE, Hon. Sec.,
Wantirna and Vermont Branch Fruitgrowers' and Primary Producers' Defence League of Australia.
25/11/40.

It Pays to Plant
GOODMAN'S
FRUIT TREES
Renowned throughout the Commonwealth. Hardy and vigorous growing. Nice fibrous roots; guaranteed straight stemmed. Catalogue Posted Free.
C. J. GOODMAN
Picnic Point Nurseries, Bairnsdale, Vic.

LETTERS FROM CORRESPONDENTS—(Continued).

THE ACQUISITION PLAN.

Victorian Grower Suggests Long Range Plan.

The Editor,
"The Fruit World."

Dear Sir,

The less said about the 1940 acquisition scheme the better.

The 1941 scheme might be an improvement—it can't very well be worse, but any scheme which can relieve the Commonwealth Government of such unnecessary embarrassment should be given serious consideration even if we have to wait till 1942 to bring it into operation. We are planning defence as far ahead as 1944, and other war measures should be in line.

A crop restriction scheme on the following lines would be preferable to acquisition. Every registered grower in the Commonwealth would be sent an application form about June 1, 1941, stating that he was free to market his fruit in any way he pleased, or strip his trees and receive compensation sufficient to keep the orchard in production.

Growers who favored the second alternative would have to return application forms by June 30, 1941. An inspector—permanent department officers could easily do this work—would be sent to each applicant during July to arrive at a crop estimate based on the previous five-year average production of the orchard, figures for which would by then be in the hands of the Board, and the general appearance of the trees.

If the grower was not satisfied with inspector's estimate he would have to market his fruit. If he was satisfied with the estimate he would sign an agreement that he would strip his trees by January 30, 1942, and would receive in return an agreement entitling him to 2/- per case payable by end of February. The inspector would visit the orchard a second time during February to see if the grower had qualified for compensation.

If a grower wanted to market the fruit of a certain block or variety this could be noted on the agreement.

The sum of 2/- per case would easily cover the overhead costs of an orchard and give the grower a living if agreement was made prior to blossoming as most of the fruit could be removed by pruning and spraying.

Advantages of this scheme would be:—

1. It would be purely voluntary, therefore every grower would be satisfied.
2. The labor shortage in the fruit industry, which will become more intense as the war goes on, would no longer be a problem.
3. Valuable man-power which is at present being wasted could be performing useful work.
4. It would result in a saving of thousands of pounds worth of oil, lead, sulphur, and other chemicals, timber, strawboard, paper and petrol, etc.
5. It would not cost the taxpayer as much as acquisition.
6. It would not require any "policing" apart from two visits to orchards concerned, whereas it is impossible to police acquisition.
7. The public would get ample good fruit cheaply.
8. Stripped orchards cannot breed grubs, therefore the codling moth menace would be checked.
9. Orchards so treated would bear heavy crops when markets were restored.

Surely it would be better to spend say half a million pounds to avoid having a surplus (that amount would compensate for five million cases at 2/- per case and the markets of Australia would absorb the balance easily). The present method is to encourage the grower to produce as much fruit as possible and many of them spend their last penny in doing so. The Government then has to spend millions of pounds of the taxpayers' money to acquire the fruit, and thousands more to sell it by expensive marketing methods and publicity which is definitely out of place in war time. Could anything be more ludicrous in the eyes of the world than a country in danger of extinction, spending its energy and money trying to dispose of an extensive surplus which need never have been produced.

It is hardly likely of course, that the supply of remaining fruit would exactly balance with the demand, but the first fruit to be eliminated would be inaccessible fruit which is expensive to market, and varieties which are unpopular in this country. Even if some "Act of God" occurred which caused a shortage—a most improbable thing where the whole Commonwealth is concerned—a shortage would be preferable to a surplus at the present time.

In conjunction with above scheme, why not do as I understand President Roosevelt is doing in America to help the fruit industry, i.e., offer growers compensation for every tree completely destroyed. This would enable "marginal" orchards to be converted to pastures as even the sum of 3/- per tree would provide £15 per acre, and some growers would take it. It would also take a lot of "marginal" fruit and unwanted varieties off the market, not only for the duration of the war, but in the difficult years which will follow.

These are drastic measures, no doubt, but if ever there was a time and place needing drastic measures it is now in Australia.

There will be opposition to these measures from: 1. Those without knowledge of the facts involved. 2. Those without enough imagination to visualise a full crop in all States. 3. Some of the vast army of officials employed by the Board. 4. A section of the industry which thrives on chaos.

Above applies to Apples, but if it can be shown that there is a surplus of Pears of certain varieties a similar scheme could be evolved.

It is of course impossible to give more than a brief outline

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LETTERS FROM CORRESPONDENTS—(Continued).

in space available, but if the Government gets even half as big a "headache" from 1941 Acquisition as it did from the 1940 scheme it will try something else for 1942.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) R. A. W. BAILEY.
Narre Warren Nth., Vic.

CONFLICTING VIEWS IN MORNINGTON PENINSULA (VICTORIA).

The Editor,
"The Fruit World."

Acquisition Strongly Opposed.

Sir,

One of the first duties of Government is to safeguard the liberty of the people, not to steal that liberty from them. Unfortunately, the governments of all countries of the world, but more particularly those under dictatorship, have ignored this fundamental principle, with the result that the world is in a state of chaos, human beings everywhere suffering from want, misery and destruction. We see exemplified this desire to tyrannise over the rights of individuals in the Apple and Pear Acquisition Scheme, with a reverse to what is desirable. Growers are smarting under a deep sense of injustice, whilst at the same time they find it absolutely impossible to meet their private commitments after paying a retinue of high salaried Board officials. Restricted measures can only hamper the sale of Apples and Pears. In one year the Apple and Pear Board ruined goodwill which has taken years of integrity to build. Orchardists have been turned into vassals of the Board. All over the Commonwealth are to be found men unceasingly working to free the industry from this yoke of oppression. This can best be done by giving each individual grower absolute freedom of action. Towards the achievement of absolute freedom of action for the grower, we have among us an ever-increasing number of workers such outstanding stalwarts of liberty and justice as Messrs. C. H. Honybun (Mitcham), E. W. Buttle (Donvale), G. J. Brunning (Somerville), T. Barclay (Tyabb), D. Williamson (Pakenham), and Mrs E. M. Serpell (Doncaster), who have proved themselves worthy scions of true democracy. May the efforts they are so unselfishly and untiringly making on behalf of a fair deal for the grower be crowned with success.

Yours etc.,
ARNOLD NOBLE.
Tyabb, Vic., 22/10/40.

PETITION FAVORS ACQUISITION.

The Victorian Minister for Agriculture is in receipt of a requisition signed by a large number of leading orchardists in the Hastings and Tyabb districts representing 70 per cent. to 80 per cent. of the acreage and production of those districts, reading as follows:—"We the undersigned support the principle of acquisition for the 1941 Apple and Pear crop in the terms of the Canberra Conference, and strongly urge you to press for the scheme on these lines."

UNITY IN WAR TIME.

The Editor,
"Fruit World."

Sir,

Enough has been said and written regarding the pros and cons of the Apple and Pear Acquisition Scheme, and I do not propose to take up your valuable space along these lines, but now that the Commonwealth Government has decided to acquire the 1941 crop I would appeal to all growers to give the scheme their support.

I think the main trouble has been that some growers will not abandon their outlook as individuals and look at the matter from the Commonwealth angle. Trade cannot be put into watertight compartments; our industry is a Commonwealth-wide one and that fact must always be before us when considering its problems.

Any act of sabotage by growers will not injure the scheme, which has not got a body to be destroyed or a soul to be damned, but it will injure their fellow growers, and that is surely to be deplored at a time such as this.

Some growers complain about loss of freedom, and some say that the scheme isn't fair, but these words lost the meaning we usually apply to them on September 3, 1939, and unless we are prepared as individuals and as an industry to adjust ourselves to changing circumstances we are only heading for trouble. Better to lose our freedom for a time than for all time.

Yours faithfully,
R. E. F. WOODWARD.
Red Hill, Vic., 27/11/1940.

HARCOURT FAVORS ACQUISITION.

HARCOURT, Vic.

Mr. H. M. McLean, writes under date November 28 stating that satisfaction is expressed by growers at the decision by the Commonwealth Government for bringing in the 1941 Apple and Pear Acquisition Plan. Providing reasonable climatic conditions continue and if irrigation water is assured, the estimated crop in Harcourt and district will be from 800,000 to 1,000,000 bushels, a record crop.

PAKENHAM GROWERS APPROVE.

The decision of the Commonwealth Government to acquire the 1941 crop of Apples and Pears was the subject of favorable comment at a recent meeting of the Gippsland Fruit Marketing Association. Mr. J. J. Ahern, who presided, said he was satisfied the Acquisition Plan was of great benefit to the industry. Growers should cooperate to the fullest extent with the Board. Mr. W. C. Harvie outlined a zoning plan designed to increase local consumption.

ACTIVITIES OF DEFENCE LEAGUE.

Under the auspices of the Mornington Peninsula Fruitgrowers' Defence League a meeting was held at Somerville on November 8, Mr. N. W. Unthank presiding. In the audience were Messrs. A. J. Kirton, M.L.A., W. H. Everard, M.L.A., and C. E. Isaac, M.L.C. Growers were present from Somerville, Tyabb, Pearcedale, and Hastings and Red Hill.

Resolutions were carried opposing acquisition and deciding to organise consumers with the object of allowing growers to sell direct to the public.

The Peninsula Defence League has requested the State Ministry to withdraw from any general acquisition scheme. A petition was sent to the Federal Government urging the abolition of the Apple and Pear Board, and discontinuance of the Acquisition Scheme. The League contends the Federal Government should undertake its responsibility to handle the unexportable surplus, estimated at 5,000,000 cases, and to deal with this surplus as they think fit; this surplus is stated to consist principally of Tasmanian and Western Australian Apples; the remaining portion of the crop could be satisfactorily marketed by growers in the Eastern States. The League further states any form of acquisition will never receive the co-operation of growers, and that the fight will be conducted to the bitter end.

VICTORIAN PREMIER APPROVES.

The Premier of Victoria (Mr. Dunstan) commends the 1941 Apple and Pear Acquisition Plan, stating that this is a marked improvement on the 1940 plan.

At the recent quarterly meeting of the Chamber of Agriculture of Victoria many matters affecting primary industries were discussed. Cr. G. T. Knee, Doncaster, represented the fruit industry.

NEW ZEALAND.

Slight Increase in Controlled Prices for Apples and Pears.

That the New Zealand Government would purchase the coming year's crop of Apples and Pears (as was done last season) was indicated by the Minister of Marketing, Hon. W. Nash, at a big meeting of fruitgrowers held at Hastings, N.Z., in mid-November. The Minister said it was possible that the prices would be slightly higher for the coming crop than was paid last season.

[For the 1939 crop the average was around 5/- per packed case.]

Regarding export the Minister said that 500,000 cases had been sent overseas; the sum received for exports would probably offset the loss on local markets.

"The present circumstances," stated Mr. Nash, "are entirely abnormal. When the present conflict is over all matters will be considered afresh."

Continuing, the Minister said that at present it was not possible to ask the United Kingdom to pay more for N.Z. produce. In Britain, people were losing their all; he could tell them stories of what was happening in England which would make people here feel they were traitors indeed if they endeavoured to ask for more.

THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM IS ON

If we lose, we go under. There is only one way to win. Every asset this country possesses must be pledged; every industry, every branch of science, every public utility must be developed and harnessed to the supreme effort.

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Victorian News and Notes

Quantong Fruit Growers' Association

Success of Co-operative Movement Reviewed at 20th Annual Meeting.

ABOUT 100 GROWERS and visitors were present at the 20th annual meeting of the Quantong Fruit Growers' Association held on November 1. Among the visitors were The Speaker, the Hon. W. Slater, M.L.A., Mr. McLeod, M.H.R. (Wannon), Messrs. D. Clark (State Rivers and Water Supply Commission), J. L. Provan and C. Wills (Horticultural Division, Department of Agriculture). An apology was received from Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture.

The annual report and balance-sheet was presented by Mr. C. H. Jost, Manager, and disclosed a very satisfactory year. In the year 1939-40, 161,415 packages had been handled at a cost of less than 3½d. each, compared with 97,741 in 1938-9.

Mr. J. L. Provan, Senior Horticultural Instructor, who was representing the Department of Agriculture, in a short address to the meeting, said that this Association was a unique one, and one of the most successful fruit marketing organisations in Victoria. It was a business built up by experience, hard work, and the co-operation of the Railways and P.M.G.'s Departments, together with the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission and the Agricultural Department, but like all co-operative businesses, its success was possible only because of the loyal support and co-operation from the growers.

Continuing, Mr. Provan outlined the activities of the Horticultural Division in relation to manuring, rootstocks, biennial bearing, pruning, irrigation, plant breeding (especially with Tomatoes), cool storage, pest control, packing instruction. He understood there would be sufficient irrigation water for growers in the Quantong area this season.

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VICTORIAN COOL STORES CONFERENCE.

All Districts Represented.

Owing to the doubt about the continuance of the Acquisition Scheme in 1941, the quarterly conference of the Orchardists' and Fruit Cool Stores Association of Victoria was not held in August, and at the meeting held at the C.T.A., Melbourne, on November 29, an attendance of delegates from all districts was reported when Mr. J. M. Ward, of the Department of Agriculture, announced the Commonwealth Government's acquisition prices.

Generally speaking, it was agreed that the prices and grades quoted should give more satisfaction than last season. Although some criticism was levelled at the provisions covered, the scheme was generally approved by a majority of the delegates.

Other items of business considered included approval of the Association's quota towards the expenses of delegates at Canberra and Sydney conferences. It was resolved that the Apple and Pear Board be requested to approach the Insurance Underwriters' Association with a view to a reduction of insurance rates upon cool stores in line with the rates quoted in New South Wales.

The question of sales tax on kerosene cases for fruit growers was discussed following the Secretary's report that the sales tax will in future be applied. It was resolved that if the tax is applied Federal Members of Parliament be requested to move for an amendment of the Act to provide for tax exemption on all cases used for storing or transporting of fresh fruit.

Crop prospects reported by delegates showed anticipation of heavy crops in most districts of Apples and Pears and generally satisfactory crops of citrus and stone fruits.

ACQUISITION MANAGER.

Board Invites Applications.

Applications for the position of Chief Executive for Victoria of the Australian Apple and Pear Marketing Committee, with special relation to all matters of acquisition and the marketing of acquired fruit are called by public announcement. Applications close on December 11 and should state the experience of and the salary expected by applicant. Applications should be directed to the Secretary, Apple and Pear Marketing Committee, 528 Collins-street, Melbourne, and be marked "Superintendent" on the envelope.

WATER RATES IN S. VICTORIA.

Legislation for Reduction.

Hon. G. L. Chandler, M.L.C. (Southern Province) introduced a Bill in the Victorian Legislative Council on November 13 to provide for a reduction from 1/- to 6d. per 1,000 gals. of water used for agricultural and horticultural purposes in the metropolitan area. The object which he emphasised was to assist fruit and vegetable growers using water from the Metropolitan Board. The Bill was supported by several speakers, but Sir George Goudie, Minister of Public Works feared that if passed, the Bill would cause other exemptions to be claimed, resulting in a heavy loss to the Board of something like £80,000 per annum.

The Bill eventually passed all stages and will be presented to the Assembly at an early date.

:: :: ::

For several years past, the Southern Victorian Fruitgrowers' Association, and affiliated Associations, have vigorously fought this problem, as the excess water rate has proved an intolerable burden. Approaches to the Metropolitan Board of Works have proved unavailing.

It is a distinct stage forward to have a Bill for the water rate reduction passed in the Legislative Council. It will now be a matter for the Government in the Legislative Assembly.

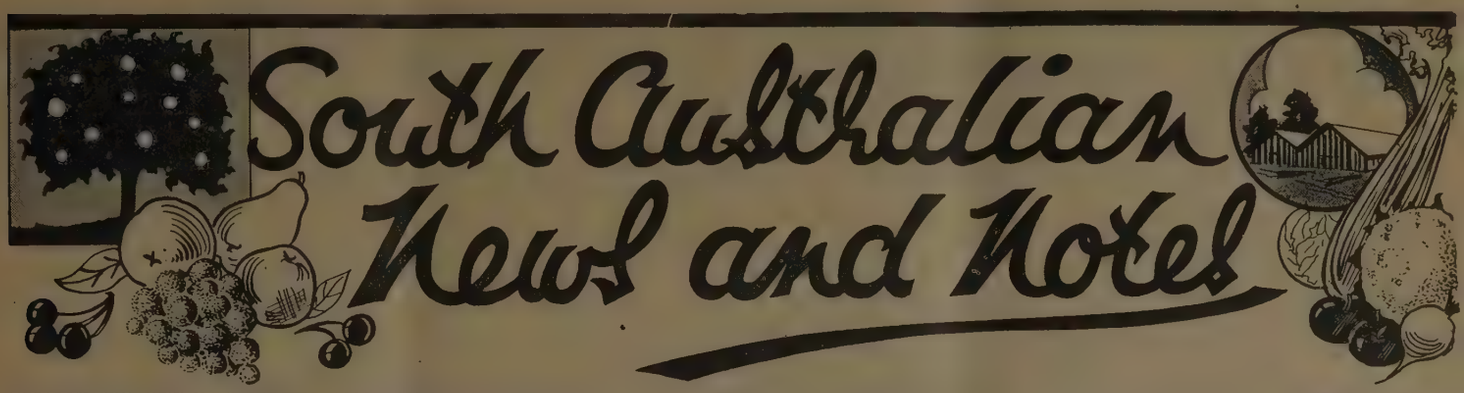
Children's Apple Packing Competition.

Won by Harcourt School.

There was a good representation of packing classes, conducted by the Department of Agriculture, competing at the Castlemaine Show. The classes competing were from East Burwood, Wantirna, Pakenham East, Pakenham Upper, Harcourt and South Ravenswood. Yates, Statesman and Rokewood varieties were wrapped and packed in the Standard Apple box.

The first prize, a handsome silver rose bowl, was won by the Harcourt School, and Wantirna secured a trophy as second prize. The first prize was donated by Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Pty. Ltd., and the second by the Castlemaine Agricultural Society. Dawn Gartside, of the Harcourt S.S., won first prize as the best individual packer and Fred Handasyde, from Wantirna, took second prize. The judge, Mr. Basil Krone, commented on the exhibit as being a very even and attractive display.

(Continued on page 23.)



INCLUDING OFFICIAL NOTES AND REPORTS FROM THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUITGROWERS' & MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION.

S.A. Fruitgrowers and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE Executive Committee of the above Association was held at Adelaide on November 29, 1940, at 10.30 a.m. The Vice-President (Mr. C. J. Pitt) occupied the chair, and those present were: — Messrs. F. Hughes, G. H. Schultz, C. H. Ragless, W. H. Ind, F. P. Short, H. B. Robson, H. W. Parsons, W. J. Bishop, G. Jennings, C. W. Giles, A. O. Petersen, O. Esselbach, L. J. Wicks, A. E. Brealey, L. B. Pfeiffer, N. T. Hobbs, E. L. Giles, C. Ridley, A. G. Strickland (Chief Horticulturist).

Apologies: Messrs. H. N. Wicks (Chairman), J. B. Randell, M. Packer, G. T. Pitt, R. A. Cramond, N. Edwards, G. J. Strange and L. Pethick.

Minutes of October meeting read and confirmed.

Correspondence.

Letter received from the Department of Agriculture re an unsatisfactory type of hardwood case being used for the local marketing of Oranges. Following lengthy discussion on the matter, action was deferred until a later meeting.

Cool Storage: Statement received from the Department of Agriculture setting out figures of fruit held in cold storage. Received.

Chamber of Manufactures: A letter from the S.A. Chamber of Manufactures enclosing an enquiry from Alexandria Export and Import Co. Alexandria, Egypt, concerning various commodities. Received.

Codling Moth Records: Statements received from the Department of Agriculture setting out Codling Moth catches at the Government Orchard for November.

Sectional and Branch Reports.

Soft Fruit: Mr. F. Hughes reported that the annual meeting of the Section had been held and was well attended. Mr. L. G. Pethick had been appointed Chairman. The crop for this season was heavy generally. Concern was being felt by soft fruit growers on the present position of cases with fruit, and Mr. Hughes moved:—"That the Merchants' Association be again approached to see if the cost of cases will be shown independently on dockets." Seconded Mr. A. O. Petersen. Carried.

Resolved that Messrs. F. Hughes and E. L. Giles meet the Merchants' Association on the matter.

Society: Mr. W. J. Bishop reported that business was going along satisfactorily. Very satisfactory arrangements had been made for supplying growers with half cases.

Cherry: Mr. W. J. Bishop reported that the season was now getting into full swing. Satisfactory arrangements for factory sorts had been made.

Apple and Pear: Mr. A. E. Brealey reported on the disorganised position of the Apple and Pear industry. The urgent need for Apple and Pear growers to organise was obvious, and he urged that the Association take some action to bring about coordination of the industry.

Lengthy discussion took place on the subject, and Mr. A. O. Petersen moved:—"That the matter be left until the Apple and Pear meeting on Friday, 6th December, and full publicity concerning the meeting be given through the press and radio." Seconded Mr. W. J. Bishop. Carried.

Marion Branch: Mr. H. W. Parsons reported that the Branch would be holding its Xmas meeting on Wednesday, December 4, 1940. During the meeting an Honor Roll displaying the photographs of Past Presidents would be unveiled by Mr. F. H. Edwards. An invitation to any member of the Central Executive to be present was extended.

Onkaparinga Branch: Mr. L. B. Pfeiffer reported on the steady growth of the new Branch. Planting was in progress, and better seed was being used this year. Seed certification in South Australia was being sponsored by the Branch, and Mr. Pfeiffer sought the information of Mr. Strickland on certain matters pertaining to certification. Subscriptions and expenses of the Branch were discussed, and it was resolved that the arrangements made by the Secretary with Mr. Pfeiffer, namely, that the full yearly subscription be paid into Association funds, and expenses be paid from Adelaide, be endorsed.

Financial Statement: Secretary submitted financial statement, together with A/cs. for payment.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SOFT FRUIT SECTION.

THE annual general meeting of the Soft Fruit Section was held on November 15, when officers for the coming season were appointed as follows:—Chairman, Mr. L. G. Pethick; Deputy Chairman, Mr. G. T. Pitt; Committee, Messrs. F. Hughes, C. Neale, W. Turner, A. Floyd, A. Elliott, H. N. Western, L. Western, and W. Halstead. Price Fixing Committee, Messrs. H. Western, C. Neale, W. Halstead, A. Elliott, and F. Hughes. Delegates to the Executive, Messrs. F. A. Wicks, L. G. Pethick, F. Hughes, H. B. Robson, and G. T. Pitt.

Crop prospects given at the meeting were for a generally heavy crop

A vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman, Mr. F. Hughes, was carried with acclamation. Mr. Hughes had held the position of Chairman for several years, and in responding to the vote of thanks, expressed his appreciation of the loyal cooperation of the Committee.

CELERY SECTION COMMITTEEMAN FOR OVERSEAS SERVICE FAREWELLED BY COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. Farnham, a member of the Celery Committee of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp., who has answered his country's call, was farewelled by the Celery Committee on November 29.

Following the final Committee meeting for 1940 Celery season, the Chairman, Mr. M. Packer, entertained the Committee at dinner at the Oriental Hotel, when the opportunity was taken to present Mr. Farnham with a wallet of notes, and wish him "God speed," and a safe return.

The various members of the Committee spoke glowingly of the invaluable services rendered the industry by their departing colleague, and expressed the hope for his safe return when the dark war clouds had vanished.

Mr. Packer was thanked for his generosity in making the happy evening possible.

S.A. FRUITGROWERS AND MARKET GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

December Meeting.

Owing to the Xmas season, the December meeting of the Executive will be held on **Friday, December 20,** in the Board Room, 288a Rundle-street, Adelaide.

CODLING MOTH FLIES HALF A MILE.

Although it was thought that the codling moth does not migrate far from its parent trees or the sheds in which it emerges, entomologists now state that by marking flying moths they have discovered that they often travel distances up to half a mile from where they are released, pass baited traps on the way and scatter through an orchard. This opens up new problems for the small orchardist and impresses the need for more strenuous control measures.

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The South Australian Fruit Marketing Association, Inc.

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT.

THE 12th annual general meeting of the S. Aust. Fruit Marketing Association was held at Adelaide on November 27, Mr. J. B. Randell presiding over a large attendance.

In opening the meeting the Premier (Hon. T. Playford) stated that S. Aust. had been fortunate in getting about 80 per cent. of fruit into No. 1 Group, but there was no reason why their best grade should not be paid for on the same basis as Victoria, namely, 3/6 per bushel, instead of the suggested rate of 3/-.

Referring to post-war prospects he stated that as a result of spectacular industrial development a wider local demand for Apples and Pears could be expected. A bigger population seemed assured, especially as another 20,000 had yet to be employed in munitions works in this State.

Committee's Report.

The President presented the report of the Committee and stated that the continuation of the disastrous war was having a serious effect on the industry, inasmuch as it was very unlikely that any shipping space would be available for Apples and Pears for the coming season. Approximately two million cases had been shipped last season.

Messrs. M. G. Basey and R. A. Cramond were appointed as the Producers' Representatives, and Messrs. J. H. Dunning and L. G. Heading as Exporters' Representatives to attend a Conference called by the Minister of Agriculture to discuss the Scheme and appoint representatives to attend a Conference at Canberra called by the Minister of Commerce.

A Sub-Committee was also formed to formulate a scheme which was subsequently submitted to an extraordinary general meeting of members, when the scheme as prepared by the Sub-Committee was approved subject to some minor alterations.

At the Adelaide Conference held on May 31, Messrs. H. N. Wicks and M. G. Basey were appointed to represent the growers, and Messrs. P. R. B. Searcy and L. J Bishop to represent the exporters at the Canberra Conference.

In June it was decided to invest £200 of the Association's funds in the purchase of £250 War Saving Certificates, while a further £500 is to be invested in the next Commonwealth War Loan.

During the year Mr. P. R. B. Searcy was unanimously appointed as Deputy Chairman.

Eight new members were admitted during the year.

Mr. F. B. James.

In October, Mr. F. B. James, who was a foundation member and member of the Executive Committee since its inception, tendered his resignation, as he was leaving the State Mr. D. W. Hannaford was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The President then formerly moved the adoption of the Committee's report, which was seconded by Mr. F. F. Redden and carried.

Growers' Sub-Committee.

Mr. M. G. Basey presented the report of the Growers' Sub-Committee, and stated that very valuable work had been done during the year. The meetings held and papers given had proved both interesting and instructive, and he asked that members should support these meetings.

Election of Officers.

Office bearers were elected as follow:— Patron, Hon. T. Playford; President, Mr. J. B. Randell; Deputy Chairman, Mr. P. R. B. Searcy.

Committee.

Voting Members (Six Growers): Messrs. A. Brealey, R. O. Knappstein, M. G. Basey, A. O. Petersen, S. M. James, H. N. Wicks.

Auxiliary Committee (Growers): Messrs. R. A. Cramon, G. Quinn, R. G. Hannaford, F. F. Redden, R. H. A. Lewis, F. Rowley, A. J. Mitchell, A. G. Strickland, W. W. Miller, M. J. Vickers, T. Playford, C. L. Winser, R. B. Pritchard.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FRUIT MARKETING ASSOCIATION INC.

December Meetings.

The December meeting of the Association will be held at the Secretary's office, 83-4 Brookman Buildings, Grenfell-street, Adelaide, on Friday, December 20, 1940.

Growers' Sub-Committee commencing at 1.45 p.m.

Speaker, Mr. R. Fowler, Manager, Government Experimental Orchard, Blackwood.

Subject: "Pollination."

Executive Committee Meeting will commence at 2.45 p.m.

E. WHITFIELD MILLS,
Secretary.

Voting Members. (4 Shippers): Messrs. H. M. Charlick, P. R. B. Searcy, D. W. Hannaford, G. A. W. Pope.

Auxiliary Committee (Shippers): Messrs. L. J. Bishop, D. Norsworthy, A. Filsell, W. F. E. Smith, G. Mack.

Growers' Sub-Committee: Messrs. M. G. Basey (Chairman), A. Brealey, T. Playford, R. A. Cramond, G. Quinn, R. G. Hannaford, F. Rowley, D. W. Hannaford, J. B. Randell, S. M. James, F. F. Redden, R. O. Knappstein, A. G. Strickland, R. H. A. Lewis, M. J. Vickers, W. W. Miller, C. L. Winser, A. J. Mitchell, R. B. Pritchard, A. O. Petersen, H. N. Wicks.

The President stated that the industry was very much indebted to the South Australian Delegates for their work at the Canberra Conference and particularly for the strenuous efforts made by Mr Vickers on behalf of this State.

1940 Acquisition.

It was resolved:—

"That the Minister of Commerce be asked to do everything possible to expedite the definition of the term 'prescribed quality' to enable the additional payment of 1/- a case for fruit to be paid to growers."

Film Display.

The Chief Horticulturist, Mr. A. G. Strickland, gave an illustrated address on the handling of Australian fruit in the United Kingdom, together with methods adopted in U.S.A., and was cordially thanked.

Executive Meeting.

The monthly meeting of the Executive of the S.A.F.M.A. was held at Adelaide on November 27, Mr. J. B. Randell presiding.

Finance: The Secretary reported that levies had been paid up-to-date on 61,846 cases.

1941 Acquisition Scheme: Mr. M. J. Vickers explained the position in regard to the proposed scheme and expressed keen disappointment at the suggested differentiation between Victoria and South Australia.

The Premier was taking this matter up with the Prime Minister and using every endeavour to get the unsatisfactory position rectified.

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CHILEAN NITRATE

Potato Culture

Climate – Soil – Rotation of Crops – Seed – Planting – Fertilizers, etc.

(By H. H. Orchard, Horticultural Adviser, S.A. Department of Agriculture.)

THE cultivation of the Potato in South Australia dates back to the foundation of the State, for in 1836, when the first pioneers from England landed on Kangaroo Island they were shown fine Potatoes grown by the sealers living on the island.

In the early days of colonisation wild pigs, which roamed at will, caused considerable damage to the crops, and it was not until substantial fences were erected and the pig menace checked that Potato growing made any headway. On the whole, steady expansion of Potato plantings occurred until the year 1932-3, when the peak was reached. Since then Potato growing in South Australia has retrogressed by over 2,000 acres This is hard to understand, because the population has increased, and the Potato, next to the cereals, probably ranks as the most important food plant grown for human consumption The variation in cropping, wide fluctuation in prices, and the fact that diseases are apt to take a greater toll, certainly tend to make it a hazardous crop compared with other crops.

The variation in cropping is one of the problems of Potato growing, and rainfall appears to be closely linked with this particular problem Importance attaches not so much to the incidence of a high annual rainfall as to the amount of rain that falls throughout the growing period of the crop. Fluctuation in prices is naturally controlled by supply and demand, and the occurrence of diseases, which will be dealt with later.

Although the area planted with Potatoes has decreased considerably during recent years, one very pleasing feature is the increase in the average yield per acre. In 1929-30 the average yield per acre was 3.30 tons, and in 1938-39 (a recognised bad Potato year) it was 4.31 tons, an increase of approximately one ton per acre. This improvement appears to be due to the fact that better methods of Potato culture are being generally adopted by South Australian growers. Larger yields on fewer acres will reduce the cost of production, should improve the quality of the crop, and with close observance of grade standards when marketing the produce, benefits should accrue to the grower.

In the following table particulars concerning the Potato crop for the ten-year period 1930-39 are shown:—

Year.	Acres.	Total Yield. Tons.	Average Yield. Tons.
1929-30 . . .	4,536	14,990	3.30
1930-31 . . .	4,998	18,991	3.80
1931-32 . . .	5,996	24,062	4.01
1932-33 . . .	6,454	24,814	3.84
1933-34 . . .	5,824	19,501	3.35
1934-35 . . .	4,664	19,377	4.15
1935-36 . . .	4,612	19,257	4.18
1936-37 . . .	4,657	20,923	4.49
1937-38 . . .	4,387	21,615	4.93
1938-39 . . .	4,290	18,487	4.31

South Australia is divided into three main Potato districts. These are the Adelaide plains and hills adjacent to the capital, which claim 45 per cent. of the average total acreage, the county of Hindmarsh further south, with 18 per cent., and the county of Grey in the south-east, with 33 per cent. of that area. The balance is distributed over small isolated patches.

Climate.

Frosts are a limiting factor in Potato growing, while rainfall and temperature are also important. For these reasons most of the early Potatoes are grown on the Adelaide Plains, where temperatures and freedom from frosts permit of planting as early as April, and the normal average rainfall might be considered sufficient to develop the crop. Lower temperatures and frosts prevent early planting in the Mount Lofty Ranges, except in well-sheltered spots; in the ranges and further south in the districts of Ashbourne, Mount Compass and Inman Valley in county Hindmarsh, the main plantings are made in November-December. In the Mount Gambier district, county of Grey, fairly mild temperatures prevail and permit the planting of an early crop in August and a main crop in November-December. These planting times indicate that the growing period of the main crop in South Australia is throughout Summer months. The reliable distribution of Summer rainfall is therefore most important, but as rainfall is definitely deficient during portion of the period in normal seasons, irrigation must be applied to make good the deficiency, if high yields are to be maintained. Potatoes are grown in parts of the State on a 9 in. Summer rainfall alone, and this must be considered the minimum amount, and then only where the moisture-holding capacity of the soil is good; less than this amount makes irrigation essential—in fact, many growers irrigate with an average Summer rainfall higher than 9 in. Drained swamp land, which naturally has a high water table, as at Mount Compass for example, will generally mature a crop without irrigation.

Soils.

While the Potato may be grown on a wide range of soils, maximum yields are generally obtained from soils that are loose and friable, well drained, and which contain a liberal amount of plant food. Soil in poor physical condition and lacking in plant food should be improved by green manure crops, aided by artificial fertilisers, before being planted with Potatoes. Organic matter improves the soil texture and water-holding capacity of a soil, and as the moisture requirements of the Potato are heavy, a soil rich in organic matter is highly suitable for Potato growing. Some soils are rapidly depleted of their organic matter, and in certain instances this depletion may be the cause of decreasing yields.

In South Australia a variety of soil types are in use—the sandy loams which grow fairly heavy crops only with the aid of fertilisers, and generally produce clean tubers of uniform shape; the heavier reddish colored clay loams, which in the absence of frequent working are liable to set hard and affect the general appearance of the tuber; the dark colored rich loams of the hills; the rich alluvial flats; the peaty soils, which grow a clean-skinned Potato; swamp soils, which are frequently of a peaty type and are very productive; and the volcanic loams of Mount Gambier, dark in color, rather snuffy in texture, with a high calcium content, rich in organic matter and nitrogen. The high calcium content makes the volcanic loams among the least acid of the soils used for Potato growing.

The Potato crop is an expensive one to grow, and suitable soil conditions are essential.

Rotation.

By systematic crop rotation and manuring it is possible to maintain the fertility of the soil, and in this way only can the State's average yield per acre be increased.

Successive cropping of Potatoes in the same land cannot be profitable. Most soils are rapidly depleted of plant foods, and unless built up again by rotational cropping, decreased yields must ensue. Following any one Potato crop, several years at least should elapse in the rotation before the land is again planted with Potatoes.

The increase in dairying and fat lamb raising in Potato districts of the State, and the consequent growing of grasses and Clovers, has materially contributed towards a beneficial rotation. The pastures are grown for a number of years; they are regularly top-dressed, and being grazed, much of the plant food is returned to the soil in the form of plant debris and the droppings of the animals. In a pasture-Potato rotation, the Potato crop is the most exacting on the soil fertility, and is usually heavily fertilised.

In the intensive production of market garden crops the Potato should be in a rotation which tends to maintain soil fertility, Potatoes being followed by a green manure crop and heavy applications of farmyard manure.

Seed.

Seed is a most important factor in Potato growing, and productive seed can only be obtained by careful selection. The practice of selecting seed from the small tubers left after those of marketable size are bagged is most unsound. Plants of low vitality, especially those affected with virus diseases, tend to produce numerous small tubers, which under this system are used for planting the following season. With successive plantings, the percentage of seed from inferior and diseased plants rapidly increases, and the returns progressively decrease, until finally the strain becomes unprofitable and what is popularly known as "run out." Virus diseases are distinguished by the crinkling, curling, rolling, and mottling of the leaves and the dwarfing of the plant; the tubers, as a rule, do not show any sign of disease.

Growers can do much to improve the productiveness of their crops by practising seed selection in what might be termed "seed plots." A separate and distinct plot, large enough to yield the required quantity of seed Potatoes, should be planted; then, during active growth, rogueing, the removal of foreign, diseased, and late plants should be practised throughout the plot. This practice results in a relatively pure strain of healthy, strong plants, the produce of which would be used for the commercial planting next year. Provided the grower is conversant with the flower and habit of growth of the variety being grown, he can discard any plants as "strangers" which do not conform to type. The extra work involved is compensated by the increased yields which will accrue from the practice.

Another form of seed selection adopted by some growers is that of alternating between small and large tubers. One year small tubers are retained for seed, and for the next year large ones are chosen, the large tubers, of course, being cut prior to planting. This method may delay degeneration of the seed stock to some extent, but it is by no means a sound practice. Probably the majority of growers obtain fresh seed stocks from outside sources every third year, and maintain them locally for the other two years. Obviously there are times when a change of seed is desirable, but

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once a grower gets a strain which does well in his district and suits market requirements, he should do all in his power to retain it for as long as possible.

Seed Certification.

A system of seed certification is the only certain method of obtaining healthy and productive seed stocks. Briefly, seed certification consists in periodic inspection of growing crops to ensure that the produce therefrom conforms to certain standards of purity and freedom from seed-borne diseases, and subsequent certification of the produce to such effect. Potato seed certification schemes are operating in New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. The South Australian Department is developing a Potato seed certification scheme, and it is hoped to gradually build up through this scheme adequate sources of seed conforming to reasonable standards of purity and freedom from disease.

The initial outlay in the purchase of certified seed may be slightly greater, but the preparation of the land and planting costs are the same, and it is a recognised fact that a light crop costs more per ton to dig than a heavier crop.

Seed Storage.

From digging until planting time, it is important to hold seed in a favorable environment. Seed tubers, when required for planting, should be firm, carrying short sturdy sprouts, and should be greened by exposure to light. Greened and sprouted tubers are less likely to "miss" when cut; and earlier germination, stronger growth, and increase in yield can generally be expected from greened tubers.

Ventilation and light are essential ventilation to assist the development of the sturdy sprouts, and light to assist the greening. These essentials can be obtained economically by storing the tubers, not more than three deep, on racks placed a few inches off the ground, under the shade of trees, preferably Pine trees. Direct sunlight should be avoided and high-built racks are not recommended. Many growers spread the seed tubers in a thin layer under the shade of Pine trees, when the Pine needles make a suitable ground covering. This method is effective, provided the tubers are regularly turned to expose all to the light.

Storing seed tubers in bags, although a common practice, is likely to be detrimental to the vitality of the tubers. In the absence of light, the beneficial greening is not obtained, and the short sturdy sprouts may be supplanted by long sappy sprouts, which are, of course, rubbed off prior to planting. Naturally the tuber is weakened by this partial loss of foodstuffs, and is less likely to sprout again when planted. Where the risk of severe frosts makes temporary bag storage a necessity, the seed tubers should be greened and sprouted as soon as practicable.

A method of keeping seed Potatoes, which offers great possibilities and is gaining favor, is that of cold storage, whereby the normal sprouting is retarded until near planting time. The seed is removed from storage a few weeks before planting—in sufficient time for sprouting, and possibly greening. Excellent results have followed the practice, a feature being the uniformity of germination and growth, compared with that of seed stored by other methods.

Pre-Planting Cultivation.

The chief essential is to attain a deep, well-prepared seed bed, where the moisture, temperature and structure of the soil is such that Potatoes of good shape and quality can be grown. To obtain such conditions, methods of cultivation must vary according to the type of soil and the preceding crop. On the snuffy soils, which do not lend themselves to frequent working, Potatoes may be turned directly under the grass sod or stubble.

The heavier soils should be fallowed as far as possible. The initial ploughing should not be less than 7 in. deep. At frequent intervals, and especially after rain, the disc or spring-tooth cultivator should be employed to kill weeds, bring the soil to a fine tilth, and assist the conservation of soil moisture. Just prior to planting, the final cultivation is given and the land rolled to consolidate the seed bed. Green manure crops and animal manures should be ploughed in early to allow of their incorporation with the soil, before planting time.

Seed Treatment.

Prior to planting, seed tubers should be dipped to control Rhizoctonia (Black Scurf or Collar Stem Rot), and Actinomyces scabies (Common Scab), two diseases usually carried on the surface of the tubers.

Formalin, corrosive sublimate, and other organic mercurial compounds may be used for the purpose. The strength of the formalin solution is ⅝ pint of formalin to 20 gallons of water for unsprouted seed, and ⅝ pint to 30 gallons for sprouted seed, immersion lasting for 1½ hours; cost of dipping is estimated at 2/6 per ton of seed tubers. The effective strength of corrosive sublimate (bichloride of mercury) is 4 oz. of corrosive sublimate to 30 gallons of water, immersion lasting for 1½ hours. Immediately after lifting from this solution, the tubers need to be washed and spread out for quick drying. The fact that corrosive sublimate is a deadly poison restricts its use. A proprietary organic mercurial compound dip, "Hortosan," is now on the market and can be recommended to growers; immersion is for one minute, provided the tubers are in suitable containers, and the estimated cost is 5/- per ton of seed tubers treated.

Cutting Seed.

Small sets, minimum weight of 1½ oz., may be used when the moisture and physical condition of the soil are good, and whole seed or larger cut sets when the soil is somewhat dry at planting time. The variety largely controls the shape of sets, but uniform, blocky seed pieces are preferable to wedge-shaped pieces. As the eyes on the "seed end" generally shoot first, it is advisable to divide this part of the tuber. Seed pieces should have at least one good eye. The minimum weight suggested is arbitrary, and growers must be guided by circumstances, as while it is not advisable to subdivide 3 oz. tubers, small seed of 1¼ in. in diameter, known to have come from healthy plants, may be used with satisfactory results. The guiding factors are the condition of the soil and the health of the seed tubers. The Mount Compass schoolboys' Potato growing competition is worth citing as an example of intense propagation. At the end of nine years the record stands at 603 lb. of Potatoes from 100 sets cut from 1 lb. of seed (8 tubers). Sets of this size would not be practicable, of course, for field crops.

The sets should be planted soon after they are cut. If unforeseen circumstances compel holding for any length of time, spread the sets out and cover them with wet bags; deep stacking is likely to cause heating and probably affect the vitality of the sets.

Seed Required.

The amount of seed required to plant an acre is influenced by the variety, size of the sets used, and planting distances adopted. Generally, approximately 10 cwt. to 12 cwt. are needed where the rows are 27 in. apart, and the sets 18 in. within the rows.

Planting.

The usual custom is to plant by hand, a man walking in the furrow behind the plough and dropping the sets at the required distances, to be covered by the next round of the plough, which might be single, double, or three-furrow. Where large areas are to be planted, multi-furrow ploughs are frequently used, the man riding on the machine and dropping the seed through an attached shute, or shutes, into the furrow. In addition to expediting the work, this method ensures that the seed piece is immediately cover-

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ed, which is a definite advantage in hot weather.

Machine planters which carry out the complete operation, even to adding fertilisers, are seldom used.

The depth of planting varies from 4 in. to 6 in. according to the type of soil. In light sandy soils, which are likely to warm up quicker, planting may be deeper than on the heavier types, or soils where irrigation is practised. Shallower planting may be adopted for early crops.

In cooler soils, not subject of frost, peat, for example, an initial shallow covering of the seed piece, followed by an additional covering of soil as the seed sprouts and grows, has given good results, but the practice is hardly feasible except on small areas.

The growing of Potatoes under a mulch of dry Pea haulms is practised in South Australia, but only to a very limited extent. The seed pieces are placed on the ground in rows about 18 in. apart and 12 in. in the rows, and covered with up to 18 in. of haulms. Slugs are a likely trouble, and good returns are necessary to compensate for the extra labor involved. However, it enables early Potatoes to be grown in what is a main-crop district.

Fertilisers.

The Potato requires liberal applications of fertilisers. Animal manures are excellent fertilisers for the Potato crop, provided they are early incorporated in the soil. Applied near planting time, organic manures are likely to be harmful to the crop. The phenomenal yields—up to 603 lb. from 1 lb. of seed pieces—obtained by the Mount Compass schoolboys, are largely attributed to the free use of fowl manure on the plots. Unfortunately, organic manures are not readily available, and growers are compelled to use artificial fertilisers.

The amount and kind of fertiliser to be applied must vary considerably, and in this respect growers must be guided largely by their own experience in their particular district, soil type, and previous history of fields to be planted with Potatoes.

Many types of complete fertilisers, containing phosphate, nitrogen and potash, may be used, but not always is their use economically sound. Phosphatic fertilisers are a basic requirement and are generally applied in the form of superphosphate, rates of application ranging from 3 cwt. up to 10 cwt. per acre. Nitrogen in the form of sulphate of ammonia is applied usually at the rate of approximately 1 cwt. per acre. In South Australian Potato districts, potassic manures have seldom given an economic increase in yield, although in New South Wales it has been found that applications of 1 cwt. of potassium sulphate, broadcast or drilled at the first ploughing, some time before the Potatoes are planted, have resulted in increased yields, provided phosphate and nitrogen are added at planting time.

It is suggested that 6 and 1 superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia be used for light soils, and 3 and 1 for heavier soils. Superphosphate alone may be used for early planted crops with a view to earlier maturity. Furthermore, on some soils, at high nitrogen level, either naturally or due to rotational practice, the use of superphosphate without sulphate of ammonia may be sound.

Lime, although not strictly a fertiliser, may be applied to those Potato lands which tend to high acidity; where lime is necessary, ordinary ground limestone is suitable.

The fertiliser is best applied in the furrow at planting time, either by hand or mechanical means. American experiments suggest feeding of the fertiliser in an even flow along each side of the furrow, so that it is mixed with the soil on a level or slightly below, but never above, the seed tuber. For this method a fertiliser attachment to the plough is necessary. The advantages are firstly, that the fertiliser is placed where it is readily available to the young roots thrown out by the seed tuber, thus ensuring a good start, and secondly that the fertiliser does not make contact with the seed. The latter consideration is of greater importance where sulphate of ammonia is used.

The pre-planting broadcasting or drilling of fertilisers directly to Potato land is not recommended, except in the case of potash, previously referred to.

(To be continued)

(The seed certificate scheme mentioned in Mr. H. H. Orchard's article, "Potato Culture," was undertaken by the Department at the request of the Onkaparinga Potato Branch of the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Incorp. Although this Branch has only been in existence for just over 12 months, it has already done much to improve the lot of Potato growers in South Australia, the certification of Potato seed being one of its major endeavours.—A.S.)

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15 lb. POTATO BAGS BECOMING POPULAR IN U.S.A.

That more Potatoes are sold with less trouble by retailers is the claim of U.S.A. retailers who welcome the packing of Potatoes in 15 lb. open-mesh bags. They state that the average family can use 15 lb. before they deteriorate and that delivery is made easier. It is claimed that the use of this size bag will become popular, and already bag makers are supplying them to growers.

Dried Fruit Notes

S.A. DRIED FRUITS BOARD. 100,000 TONS DRIED FRUITS.

Annual Report.

During 1939 the South Australian pack of dried fruits was well below 1938 pack owing to a light crop and a record heat wave that was experienced during the drying period followed by heavy early Autumn rains. The unfavorable weather conditions were also reflected in a lower quality of fruit.

Of the 21,376 tons of dried vine fruits, Currants represented 9,599 tons, Sultanas 9,699 tons and Lexias 2,078 tons. Of the 1904 tons of dried tree fruits, Apricots lead with 1,019 tons, Prunes 378 tons, Peaches 265 tons, Pears 201 tons and Nectarines 41 tons.

Districts: Renmark is the largest S.A. producing area, having eight packing houses and producing (in 1939), 3,106 tons Currants, 3,226 tons Sultanas, and 435 tons Lexias. Berri comes next with 3, 1,967, 2,813 and 689 respectively. All told, there are 37 packing houses in the State. In dried tree fruits, Barossa is the largest producing district with 92 tons Prunes, 85 tons Peaches, 430 tons Apricots, 10 tons Nectarines, and 43 tons Sultanas, besides producing 626 tons dried vine fruits.

During 1939 a total of 76,524 tons of all varieties of dried fruits was produced in Australia. By States, the quantities were: Vic. 42,068 tons, S.A. 23,280, N.S.W. 7,151 and W.A. 4,025, of which dried vine fruit exports totalled 55,983 tons.

Publicity: In co-operation with all producing States, S.A. provided facilities for publicity by radio, window displays, recipe books, lectures at schools, etc., and contributed £1,343 to the general advertising programme.

Research: The S.A. Board followed up experimental plots and cultural practice at various centres with the co-operation of the Department of Agriculture. Pruning and re-working and prune investigations were included in the work.

18th Annual Conference.

At the 18th annual conference of the Federal Council of the A.D.F.A. held at Mildura on October 28, the annual report presented stated that a period of anxiety was being gone through owing to the war in Europe, but the industry was fortunate in disposing of its entire 1940 crop which meant that about 76,000 tons had been exported to all overseas markets and 1941 can be faced with clear decks.

Recognising the high food value of dried fruits, the British Government had made the necessary shiping space available and although prices were not high, they gave growers a reasonable return. Cost of production had risen and there is little relief anticipated in this matter while the war lasts. Growers were urged to effect economies in production wherever possible without prejudicing their yields.

The 1940 season had been good for harvesting and drying and over 100,000 tons had been produced. This is a record crop and compares with the previous highest crop in 1938 of 97,902 tons.

Research work had been carried on at Merbein and, aided by drainage improvements had resulted in increased Sultana yields, 6.2 cwt. higher than the average for four years ending in 1929. The report stated that although some predicted that irrigation would eventually ruin the land, in 20 years it has been proved that if proper care of the land is undertaken there is no reason why it should not remain permanently productive.

The following members were appointed to the Board of Management: Messrs. P. Malloch (Irymple), J. B. Murdock (Waikerie), E. J. Hudson (Yenda), J. H. Gordon (Red Cliffs), all re-elected, H. D. Howie, chairman (Renmark), D. C. Winterbottom (Mildura), and A. R. Lawrence (Nyah).

S.A. DRIED FRUIT BOARD.

Election in December.

Three producer representatives will be elected to the S.A. Board this month. Nominations closed on November 8, and five candidates are announced for No. 1 district (Irrigated areas); Messrs. R. Curren (Berri), J. R. Jamison (Ramco), C. S. Ruston (Renmark), E. N. Seary (Renmark), and C. W. Till (Barmera). Ballot papers which have been posted to all eligible voters are returnable by December 14. In District No. 2 (non-irrigated areas), Mr. C. E. Russell, present member, is unopposed.

DRIED FRUITS BOARD.

Nominations for Election.

December 13 has been announced by the Deputy Returning Officer (Mr. S. Polglaze) as the closing date for nominations for election as growers' representatives for Victoria on the Dried Fruits Export Control Board. Two representatives from Victoria are provided for in the Act and one each for N.S.W., S.A. and W.A. The term is for two years from February 6 next. Each nomination must bear the signature of at least ten eligible voters before being acceptable by the Returning Officer.

DRIED FRUIT NOTES—(Continued).

Trellising of Vines

THE T HEAD METHOD.

FOLLOWING IMPROVED METHODS of cultivation, including the use of cover crops and fertilisers, **Sultana** vines have shown more luxuriant growth and greater production in recent years, and the method of trellising has had to be adapted to this condition.

Of the various methods used, the T trellis is probably the most promising, reports a writer in the "S.A. Journal of Agriculture," and various forms of this system have been tried.

In some cases the old 4 ft. 2 in. trellis has been utilised by bolting a 1 ft. cross piece, through which a wire has been run at either end, on to the post about one foot from the top, leaving the old wire at the top of the post for the support of the foliage. In other instances 5 ft. trellis has been erected with cross pieces from 3 ft. to 3 ft. 9 in. above ground level, with one to two foliage wires on top.

During the past few years the writer has been experimenting with both single "T" and double "T" systems of trellising. In the single, the "T" piece was situated 3 ft. 9 in. above ground level with a foliage wire at 4 ft. 10 in. In the double, the "T" pieces were placed 3 ft. and 3 ft. 9 in. respectively above ground level, with a foliage wire at 4 ft. 10 in.

During the 1937 and 1938 seasons when the fruit was considerably damaged by Summer rains, much less mould developed on the fruit of the vines thus trained than was the case of those trellised on the ordinary 4ft. 3 in. three-wire trellis. However, on vines trained on a 5 ft. trellis, with wires at 2 ft. 9 in., 3 ft. 6 in., 4 ft., and 4 ft. 10 in. of which the two top wires were foliage wires, even less mould occurred on the fruit than on the vines trained on the "T" trellis; but it is advisable that further data during wet seasons be obtained before a final comparison between the two systems be made.

"T" trellis for the control of foliage only has also been tried by some growers. With such trellis the "T" pieces are situated at the top of the posts, and the foliage, in growing up between the wires and being supported by them, does not run along the ground, thereby permitting a free passage of air underneath the vine trellis. Such a condition is beneficial in dissipating much of the humidity that develops among dense foliage after Summer rains; but the position of the young shoots at the top of the trellis during the growing season has also its disadvantages, owing to the fact of their being thus placed in situations where they may be easily blown about and damaged by high winds. It would thus appear, after tests, that the T trellis is superior to the usual 4 ft. 2 in. trellis with three wires.

"FRUIT WORLD" APPRECIATED.

A reader at Coonawarra, Sth. Aust., writes: "I appreciate your valuable and educational paper, the "Fruit World."

AUSTRALIAN DATES.

Experiments Started.

Most of the dates used in Australia come from tropical countries, especially Irak, where large areas under date palms are found at Basia. Experiments are now being undertaken in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Areas of New South Wales, to find if they can be grown in Australia. In southern California, with climatic conditions somewhat similar to our own, and in Arizona, some success in growing date palms is reported.

Seed has been planted in selected parts of New South Wales, including the M.I.A., some 500 yearling seedlings have also been raised from crossing the Canary Island palm with the date palm and have been distributed in an effort to see how they will grow whilst a further lot of seedlings are coming along and will be transplanted at about two years of age. One difficulty arises in that there have to be male and female trees for pollination purposes and until a supply of male seedlings can be produced the planting will be on a very small scale.

DRIED FRUIT QUOTAS.

Victorian Sales Altered.

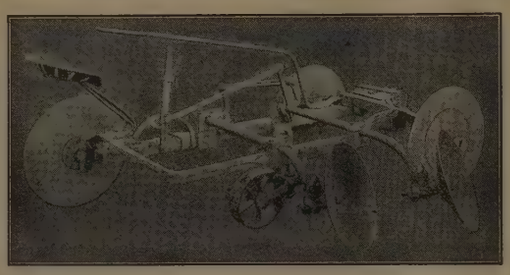
Some alteration of the maximum proportion of Victorian dried fruits which may be marketed within the State, was announced by the chairman of the Dried Fruits Board (Mr. Parker J. Maloney) on November 21. He predicted increased consumption within the Commonwealth and estimated a record crop of approximately 100,000 tons from all States. The quotas announced are: Dried Currants 17 per cent., Sultanas 14½ per cent., Lexias 49 per cent., Prunes 100 per cent., Peaches 98 per cent., Apricots 90 per cent., Nectarines 100 per cent., and Pears 85 per cent. Of these varieties the percentage of Prunes, Nectarines and Apricots are unaltered.

CHRISTMAS MAILS.

Post Early.

Again the postal authorities urge the early posting of Christmas mail. Parcels may be marked "Do not open till Christmas" and be posted before the last minute rush sets in. Readers are invited to co-operate with the Department, which is somewhat handicapped by so many experienced officers having enlisted. Make sure of your mail being in time by posting early.

"HILLMAN" ORCHARD STRIP PLOW



Double Furrow

A sturdy, strong plow equipped with reversible discs to enable the operator to plow up to, or away from the trees. Operated by a single lever and with nothing to catch branches of trees. To facilitate the movement of the plow around the orchard the discs are movable and lift clear of the ground.

The steering arms are drop forged from the best mild steel and the main wheels are equipped with ball bearings.

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Canned Fruit News

GRIFFITH CO-OP. REPORT' PRODUCTION TONNAGE UP.

The Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd. held its annual meeting recently, and a very satisfactory balance sheet was presented to the shareholders. The three retiring directors: Messrs. P. C. Cox, B. Oaks and J. C. Thorne, were re-elected. The company showed a net profit for the half-year of £3,654/12/4, and the chairman (Mr. V. C. Williams) in presenting his report, said that prospects for the coming season were bright, and the directors recommended that a dividend of 5 per cent. be paid on share capital, and the balance be transferred to reserves. This was adopted by the meeting.

The canning Peach crop had been approximately 700 tons less than that of 1939, and this was due to the serious mortality among the trees which followed the severe flooding of that year.

The aggregate tonnage was, however, greater than that of 1939, and the total values were higher, the summary of the entire canning fruit crop was as follows, and a comparison is shown:

	1939. Tons.	1940. Tons.
Apricots	812	985
Peaches	3,201	2,563
Pears	124	322
Figs	99	141
Plums	31	46
Quinces	240	248
Grapes	80	76
Tomatoes	610	991
	5,197	5,372
Value, 1939	£45,775	
Value, 1940	£53,038	

LEETON CO-OP. REPORT.

Cannery Extension Proposed.

It has been stated that very important Government contracts for canned meat and other products has been lodged with the Leeton Co-operative Cannery, and much interest has been aroused thereby. For some considerable time the directors have been considering the extension of their operations in order to keep the cannery working during off seasons, and it believed that many additional products will be produced from now on.

Several hundred thousand cans have already been successfully processed, and a large amount of primary produce has been absorbed. For meat and vegetable rations alone beef equal to the weight of 300 head of cattle will be required, sixty tons of Tomato pulp, 20 tons of carrots and ten tons of Area rice will be used, and also large quantities of beans will be wanted.

The prospects of growing the **Soya Bean** on these Areas is looking brighter, and several large plots will be planted this year. It is to be hoped that if climatic and other conditions prove favorable that this may develop into a large industry.

Any new industry should receive encouragement, and it is very certain that there is room for experimenting in many lines.

EXCHANGE BY FRUIT.

India a Market.

The recent conference in India, at which all British Dominions were represented and discussed methods for assisting the Empire during the present war, suggests an extension of a market that seems to have been neglected. India has lost markets for her huge cotton production and has been unable to ship approximately 1,250,000 bales of cotton owing to shipping space shortage.

A large cotton miller from India who recently visited Australia suggested Australia exchanging dried and canned fruits and wines from Australia for cotton from India. Doubtless the Commonwealth Commerce Department has investigated this matter and is closely watching the position, but it would seem that the visitor's suggestion is sound.

CANNED FRUIT IN DESERT.

The difficulty of getting enough canned fruits and vegetables in the deserts during the Great War will not be so marked in the present war owing to the extension and improvement of canning that have occurred in the past 20 years. An interesting report from "Australian Food Manufacture" reports that when attempting to break the record time for a motor-car journey from London to Capetown, Mr. H. E. Symons, F.R.G.S., paid a tribute to canned fruit and vegetables which were included in their stores equipment for the trip.

Where possible meals were taken in hotels and towns along the route, but when in isolated places canned foods saved the situation whether in the hot plains or in high altitudes. Variety was obtained by carrying canned soups, meats, fruit and vegetables. Once, when their car fell into the river, the canned food was found unharmed, after some days' immersion, and the loss of the labels making recognition of the particular cans required was the only problem. The report stated that empty cans were seen around many forts in the Sahara desert.

Californian canners dehydrate Black Currants and ship them in barrels to Eire (Ireland), where they are made into Black Currant jam by manufacturers.

SHEPPARTON CANNERY.

Extra Payments of £22,182.

Extra payments to suppliers of fruit to the Shepparton Cannery of £22,182 were recently announced. Owing to an error this sum was incorrectly stated in one set of figures last month, though the addition of the figures as given would have revealed the correct sum. Last year's additional payment to suppliers amounted to £23,574—only £1,392 more than this year's figure.

PEACH WITHOUT FUZZ.

By crossing a standard variety of Peach with a fuzzless type from Nebraska, Dr. F. W. Hofmann, of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, has evolved a Peach without fuzz after nearly 40 years of propagation. It has been released to orchardists and will come on the market in the next few years. The new Peach is as large and delicious as ordinary varieties, but is as "bald" as a Plum and has a waxy surface. It is highly resistant to brown rot and frost. It is reported that almost any variety can be made fuzzless by crossing.

BETTER LABELS INCREASE SALES.

Tie Up With Other Lines.

A large food canning company in Canada discovered a value in making all of its labels stress the name and trade mark of the company. In addition they dropped the inclusion of gold in the labels, making them less costly. Whereas in 1937 many lines had a totally different label, in 1939 the uniformity of the labels helped to increase sales by 150 per cent. as housewives recognised the label on various different kinds of canned goods, asking for "Underwood" brand.

CANNED BRIEFS.

Recognising the benefit of pooling their knowledge, American and Canadian canners will hold the 11th annual packaging exposition at Chicago in April, 1941.

A Vancouver report states that about 1,600 tons of canned berries are tied up at various seaports awaiting shipment. This represents about 60 per cent. of the total pack and involves about 300,000 dollars worth lying idle and a temporary loss to growers and canners.

British canners are now required to pack prescribed minimum filled weights of fruit and vegetables in specified containers for local markets.

IMPROVED THREE AND FOUR STAR BRAND
HAYSTACK COVERS
FOUR STAR PRICES REDUCED (QUALITY UNALTERED)
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New Prices - - - - Season 1940-41

Size.	Price***	Price****
12 x 20ft. ..	£3 3 0 ..	£3 11 9
12 x 24ft. ..	3 14 [illegible] ..	4 1 5
[illegible] x 27ft. ..	4 4 0 ..	4 10 0
12 x 30ft. ..	4 13 [illegible] ..	4 19 6
12 x 33ft. ..	5 2 9 ..	5 6 6
18 x 20ft. ..	4 18 6 ..	5 3 6
18 x 24ft. ..	5 15 0 ..	6 0 0
18 x 27ft. ..	6 6 0 ..	6 12 9
18 x 30ft. ..	7 0 0 ..	7 5 9
18 x 33ft. ..	7 14 0 ..	7 19 6
[illegible]1 x [illegible]0ft. ..	8 3 6 ..	8 10 6
21 x 33ft. ..	8 19 6 ..	9 5 6
22 x 24ft. ..	6 19 6 ..	7 9 6

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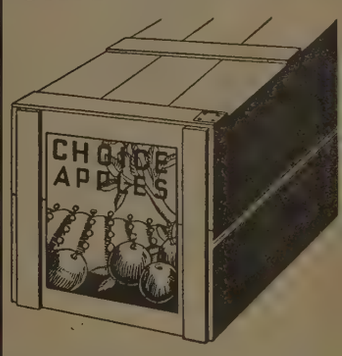

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The Market Grower

ONIONS FOR ENGLISH GARDENS.

Australia to Supply Seed.

The British Government has asked Australia to supply Brown Spanish Onion seed to replace supplies previously obtained from European countries. The Victorian Department of Agriculture suggests that as the commercial supplies of seed are almost exhausted, a special effort could be made by gardeners to supply some of the required seed and that gifts of seed would be appreciated and the Department would arrange for shipment.

The soil required should be in good tilth but need not necessarily be rich in animal manures. Superphosphate at 2 ozs. per square yard would be suitable. The bulbs should be planted in rows 27-30 inches apart and about 18 inches apart in the rows, placed root downwards and the tops about ½ inch to 1 inch below the surface of the soil. Unless the soil is very moist it should be watered immediately after planting. Keep weeds down by shallow hoeing, and water whenever necessary. After the seed heads appear water between the rows and not overhead to prevent the seed head being damaged.

In harvesting, leave a few inches of stalk and place the heads on a canvas or bag sheet and leave in the sun for several days to cure after which threshing by flailing or light trampling and store the seed in tightly lidded tins. Further particulars can be attained from the Department of Agriculture, Treasury Gardens, Melbourne.

POTATO DISEASE CONTROL.

Brown Fleck Problems.

With the possibility of a dearth of Potatoes this year in Australia, the following control of Brown Fleck is given in the "N.S.W. Agricultural Gazette."

The disease known as Brown Fleck or Internal Brown Spot of Potatoes is characterised by brown or yellow regions of dead tissue scattered throughout the tuber. The affected areas may vary in size and shape, in some cases appearing as spots, in others as streaks when the tuber is cut across. There are no external symptoms and it is necessary to cut tubers to detect the presence of the disease. Moreover, there are no distinctive signs of the condition on the stems and foliage of plants which bear affected tubers. Affected tubers do not rot, but when cooked the brown specks become quite hard and impair the edible qualities. There is no evidence that the disease develops or becomes more serious in transit or in storage.

The disease is considered to be of non-parasitic origin, no causal organism having so far been isolated from affected tubers. The disease appears to be most prevalent on soils of a light gravelly nature, and it is most generally observed in dry seasons.

If possible, land which is conducive to the development of Internal Brown Spot should be avoided for Potatoes. Although there is no evidence to support the view that "flecked" seed Potatoes will give rise to a diseased crop, it is advisable on general principles not to use affected tubers as seed stock.

Because the disease has been attributed in some parts of the world to excessive soil acidity, the use of lime has been recommended as a preventive measure, but caution must be exercised in this matter owing to the possibility of increasing Scab infection.

CAULIFLOWER TESTS.

N.S.W. Results.

"Phenomenal" proved the best cauliflower variety in tests at Hunter River, N.S.W., reported Mr. J. Douglass, Agricultural Instructor recently. Other varieties tested were "Short," a variety maturing in 4½-6 months and most suitable for the early and main crop on Sydney market. "Special Giant" proved a poorer variety in the past two seasons.

Referring to fertilizer trials he quoted the proportions of 4 cwt. super., 1 cwt. sulphate ammonia, and 20 lbs. trace elements (boron, copper, magnesium, etc.), as producing the best results. Where 1 cwt. nitrate soda and 4 cwt. super. were used, the crop was proportionately smaller, thus showing the value of the addition of the trace elements quoted.

HOME VEGETABLE GARDENS.

Part of War Effort.

In Britain much prominence is being given to the campaign for the growing of vegetables in the back yard. Already it is having a good effect, and gardening is assuming greater interest than during peace times. Recently the Local Government Clerks' Association in Sydney asked the support of Government in encouraging an extension of vegetable growing by householders. The Premier, Mr. Mair, approves of the movement and has promised it support.

He believes that the health of the people will be benefited by gardening, that money will be saved and that a contribution to the war effort will result by lessening the strain on transport that may be diverted to military needs.

BORAX FOR GRANNY SMITHS.

Not only do soil applications of borax correct boron deficiency the cause of internal cork in Apples, but it has a marked influence on the color of Granny Smiths, writes J. D. Bryden, Senior Orchardist at the Wagga Experiment Farm in the N.S.W. Agricultural Gazette.

Tests were made in 1938 in which cool stored and common stored Grannies were compared and those having borax treatment showed green even color, with a few tinged with yellow, whilst untreated Apples showed solid yellow and a few green with unveen yellow tinge. At a second examination a month later, the cool stored fruit from borax treated samples were dark green and even and fruit from untreated trees were pale green with some yellow tinge. In common-stored samples borax treated fruit was variable in color with the majority pale green. Apples from untreated trees were also variable in color but mostly solid yellow. The report concludes with the statement that the trade prefers the green skinned fruit and suggests that a judicious use of borax will help in producing the desired color.

N.S.W. DEPARTMENT RE-ORGANISED.

The N.S.W. Department of Agriculture has been reorganised, and in future the Division of Horticulture will include fruit, exports and imports, and viticultural branches. Two additional officers have been appointed for extension work on the M.I.A., especially related to irrigation or orchards. Mr. C. G. Savage is Chief, Division of Horticulture.

The conversation at the party was all about dieting.

"Yes," said a guest, "I've eaten beef all my life, and I'm as strong as an ox."

"That's funny," said his companion, "I've been eating fish for six months, and I can't swim a stroke."

FRUITGROWERS! Sell by Auction in Sydney

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WRITE US IF YOU REQUIRE STENCILS AND ADVICE NOTES.

Sell in Sydney through RADLEYS AUCTIONS Pty. Ltd.

Victorian News and Notes

(Continued from Page 14)

Pakenham.—At a very enjoyable social evening held at Pakenham Upper on Friday evening, November 15, a shield, donated by the Gerrard Wire Tying Machines Co. Ltd., and won by the Pakenham Upper Young Farmers' Club at the 1940 Royal Show, was presented by Mr. J. M. Ward, Superintendent of Horticulture.

This shield, which was first prize in an annual Apple packing competition, has been won for three years in succession by this Young Farmers' Club, and now becomes their property. The training of this team of Young Farmers has been greatly facilitated by Mr. I. Woolf, who has made available his packing house; Mr. A. Shelton, the manager of the shed, Mr. Bennett, the school teacher, and Mr. W. Black.

An individual packing examination conducted by Mr. W. Harris, Assistant Fruit Packing Instructor, showed a uniformly high standard of efficiency has been obtained. Supper was provided by the ladies, and dancing concluded a very pleasant evening.

Review by Agricultural Dept.

Seasonal Spraying Hints.

In a report just issued by the Department of Agriculture, horticultural conditions during the month of November are reviewed.

The rain which fell late in the month will prove of great benefit. Packham Pears have thinned out considerably in all districts, and the late blooming Apple varieties, London Pippin and Five Crown are light, probably because of damage by thrips, but other varieties are medium to heavy.

As yet, **codling moth** activity has been slight, but black spot has been seen in some districts in sufficient amount to justify combination sprays of lead arsenate and lime sulphur as a protective measure. Woolly aphis has been prevalent in some districts where activity of the parasitic wasp has been delayed and some growers have been using a spray of nicotine sulphate and white oil to reduce the infestation.

Early **Peaches and Apricots** have already reached the market, being slightly earlier than usual. Peaches are showing heavy crops and thinning has been necessary in the Goulburn Valley and metropolitan districts. **Cherries** have been of excellent quality, but some splitting and brown rot occurred after the recent rain.

Raspberries are maturing earlier than usual this year. Strawberries were of good quality and the picking of the first crop has almost been completed. Because of the cool weather harvesting was rather prolonged, but this was an advantage on account of the labor shortage.

In vine growing areas, the dry conditions were favorable to healthy growth. However, growers have been using combination sprays of Bordeaux Mixture and lead arsenate as a protection against black spot and the light brown Apple moth. Sulphur dusts have been used for the control of oidium. Indications are that a heavy crop of Grapes will not be obtained, but quality should be good. Walthams are light but large bunches of good quality fruit are expected. Gordos are heavy and thinning is required. Ohanez are bearing well again this year and Sultanas are heavy.

In the Swan Hill district high winds caused a loss of Navel Oranges left late on the trees. Next season's crop in all citrus areas will be light. In Mildura, Valencias are being packed for New Zealand.

In this district there has been an **expansion of vegetable growing**, and the glasshouse Tomatoes are of excellent quality and find a ready market.

FRUIT PACKING WAGES BOARD.

Now Operating in Victoria.

The representatives of employers are Messrs. D. J. Walters, F. Moore and K. Weeding.

Mr. C. M. Martin was originally appointed to represent the citrus industry, but he resigned and Mr. Walters has been appointed in his place.

The representatives of the employees are Messrs. S. G. Brown, A. A. Kyle and E. J. Lovell.

The chairman is R. J. Edwards.

MERBEIN ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Merbein Dried Fruits Growers' Association was held on November 28, with Mr. A. Rawlings in the chair. Five nominations were received to fill the six vacancies on the Committee. These were elected, and the Committee was empowered to fill the remaining vacancy.

The sum of £10 was approved for the supply of citrus fruit to the Caulfield Military Hospital.

PORT OF MANCHESTER.

At Manchester, the Port facilities are fully employed, and the great dock and transport facilities have suffered no damage or casualties as a result of enemy action. This information is conveyed in a letter dated November 30 from Capt. W. J. Wade, of Sydney, representative in Australia and New Zealand of the Port of Manchester. No details of projected sailings are permissible, but this reassuring information is conveyed with the earnest hope that the Empire will enjoy the blessings of victorious peace ere the close of another year.

STRAWBERRIES IN QUEENSLAND.

The most popular commercial varieties being grown in Queensland are Phenomenal and Aurie, says the "Queensland Journal of Agriculture." Buyers demand a highly colored, firm, fine-flavored variety, and the above meet the case. No varieties are permanent as deterioration occurs in a few years; therefore new seedlings have to be provided, of which the best are grown locally. Phenomenal and Aurie varieties seem to meet the requirements of both the fresh fruit trade and the jam manufacturer.

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N.S.W. CO-OPERATIVES COMBINE.

Growers' Executive Appointed.

At a conference held in Leeton on November 10, four large co-operative organisations combined into a body to be known as the M.I.A. Co-operative Executive. These were the Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co., the Leeton Co-op. Cannery Co., the Leeton Fruitgrowers' Co-op Society and the Yenda Producers' Co-op. Co. The combination is expected to have beneficial effects upon the future of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area.

Two members from each body will comprise the executive and all questions affecting the irrigation area will be dealt with as well as sponsoring all representations to Government upon matters affecting the area. The first members of the executive are:—Messrs. Thorne and Williams (Griffith), Letheren and Taylor (Leeton), and Enticknap and Longhurst (Leeton Cannery).

The rehabilitation of settlers whose farms have become waterlogged, attention to seepage and the dissemination of knowledge regarding research work are amongst the first matters which the executive will investigate. Later development may include the organisation of specific departments to consider definite problems affecting the productions in the area.

FRUIT DISTRICTS HELP WAR EFFORTS.

Reports continue to come in showing how many fruit districts are assisting all forms of war effort, and the raising of funds for Red Cross and other services.

Berri Co-op. Packing Union (S.A.) is arranging a continental entertainment early in December to aid local war funds, and a strong committee is at work.

Murray Settlements recently organised to contribute to the Cheer-up Hut in Adelaide, and enlisted 300 voluntary workers.

Renmark (S.A.): Sporting clubs and local committees are helping regularly, and early in November reported well over £200 in hand.

Shepparton (Vic.) has already donated an ambulance, and is still continuing the good work.

Waikerie (S.A.) Rifle Club has increased its membership to 100 to co-operate in the volunteer defence scheme and regular training periods are scheduled.

Barmera (S.A.): At a patriotic carnival held recently, £125 was raised for war funds. The carnival was preceded by a procession of soldiers, boy scouts, women's auxiliaries, girl guides and floats and decorated vehicles. A dance in the Co-op. Packing Company's building concluded a busy and satisfactory day.

Winning the world's championship, Miss Erma Flores recently packed 2 cases each containing 220 Oranges in 8 minutes 20 seconds and won a trophy and £6 in cash.

Cable Address: DAVIS, MELBOURNE. Code: "ABC," 4th and 5th Editions. Box, G.P.O. 148B.

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11 and 12 Victoria Market.
Reference—E.S. & A. Bank, Elizabeth St. Branch. Melbourne.
Phone: F 5035.

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The most modern cool storage in Victoria. Right opposite Victoria Fruit Market.
Fruit Ripened, Colored, Packed and Stored. Gluts Avoided.
Fruitgrowers call or write.
Telephone F 3093.

Children's Handwriting Competition

Prize Winners Announced

THE AUSTRALIAN APPLE AND PEAR Board has announced the results of the Handwriting Competition recently conducted by them. The prize for the best handwriting in Australia went to—Laurence Gillespie, 12 Burt-avenue, Hilton, S.A., 1; Jean Valda Lower, Pinnaroo, S.A., 2; Gloria Anne Fisher, Box 170, Orbost, Vic., 3.

Victorian Section.

Girls. — Under 17: Nancy Gregory, Glen Iris, 1; Doris Thomson, Sale, 2; Ruth Greene, Bendigo, 3. Under 14: Gloria Fisher, Orbost, 1; Nancy Edmunds, Hawthorn, 2; Dorothy Litster, Devenish, 3. Under 10: Marie Tepper, Ascot Vale, 1; Joan Lax, Ascot Vale, 2; Joan Wescott, St. Arnaud, 3.

Boys. — Under 17: Hugh Marr, Camberwell, 1; Vincent Spano, Ascot Vale, 2; Edward Jinks, Newhaven, 3. Under 14: Ian Sheppard, Malvern, 1; Donald Holstock, Glen Iris, 2; Donald Freeman, Ripponlea, 3. Under 10: Lloyd Fisher, Orbost, 1; Keith Richards, Ascot Vale West, 2; Donald Little, Ascot Vale West, 3.

Tasmanian Section.

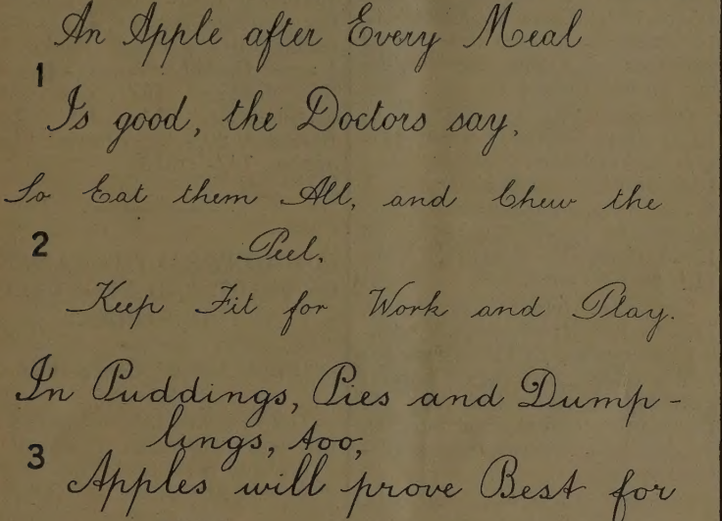
Girls. — Under 17: Lola Curtain, Kempton, 1; Shirley Paice, New Town, 2; Nellie Espie, Nth. Hobart, 3. Under 14: Evelyn Matthews, Irish Town, 1; Joy Freeman, Stanley, 2; Vera Mercer, Devonport, 3. Under 10: Nita Davis, Montague Bay, 1; Elizabeth Challis, Stanley, 2; Margaret Smedley, Robbins Island, 3.

Boys.—Under 17: Allan Mullins, Scottsdale, 1; Richard Howroyd, Scottsdale, 2; Ashley Cullen, Moonah, 3. Under 14: William Jackson, South Hobart, 1; John Smith, King Island, 2; Alfred Bennett, Tatana, 3. Under 10: Deon Grant, South Hobart, 1; Darrell Stevenson, Devonport, 2; Ronald James, Scottsdale, 3.

New South Wales Section.

Girls. — Under 17: Peggy Parker, South Guyra, 1; Joyce Bryant, Hurstville, 2; Audrey Taylor, Guyra, 3. Under 14: Joan Hodgson, Goulburn, 1; Necia Prigg, Goulburn, 2; Barbara Kennedy, Wagga, 3. Under 10: Audrey George, Grafton, 1; Joyce Witchard, Newtown, 2; Frances Coctin, Tallong, 3. Consolation: Beryl Parkinson, Abermain.

Boys. — Under 17: No entries. Under 14: John Simpson, Darlinghurst, 1; Thomas Ashton, Thirlmere, 2. No third. Under 10: James Burke, Balgowlah, 1; Don Simpson, Darlinghurst, 2; Chris. Owen, Abermain, 3.



SPECIMEN OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP HANDWRITING: 1. Laurence Gillespie (S.Aust.); 2. Jean Lower (S. Aust.); 3. Gloria Fisher (Vic.).

South Australian Section.

Girls.—Under 17: Jean Lower, Pinnaroo, 1; Roma Holland, Enfield, 2; Joy Fox, Berri, 3. Under 14: Sheila Pyne, Tanunda, 1; Fay Offe, Tanunda, 2; Patricia Kliche, Tanunda, 3. Under 10: Pauline Bushell, St. Peters, 1; Aileen Denyer, Tusmore, 2; Loris Baillie, Glandore, 3.

Boys. — Under 17: Laurence Gillespie, Hilton, 1; Arthur Cooke, Mt. Gambier, 2; David Robin, Unley, 3. Under 14: John Schroder, South East, 1; William Jones, Port Pirie West, 2; Geoffrey Hollands, Westbourne Park, 3. Under 10: Robert Taylor, West Croydon, 1; Brenton Petney, Angaston, 2; Stanley Dugan, Croydon, 3.

Queensland Section.

Girls. — Under 17: Sylvia Warner, Toowoomba, 1; Catherine Hamilton, Manly, 2; Marjorie Horne, Maryborough, 3. Under 14: Nerida Blocksidge, East Brisbane, 1; Glenice Taylor, Maryborough, 2; Dulcie Jackson, Wamuran, 3. Under 10: Joan Garrett, Namour, N.C. Line, 1; Frances Fruitier, Sandgate, 2; Betty Hughes, Stanthorpe, 3.

Boys.—Under 17: No first or second award; Harold Dorrough, Currumbin, 3. Under 14: David Aitken, Graceville, 1; Maurice Steele, Sandgate, 2; Norman Wise, South Brisbane, 3. Under 10: Gavan Carroll, Brisbane, 1; Sydney Fassler, Hamilton, 2; Keith Jones, Stanthorpe, 3.

Auction System of Selling Fruit in Sydney

At the fruit markets in Sydney the usual scene of fruit selling is somewhat altered, especially at the south western end, where auction selling is now taking place daily.

The business recently established by Radley's Auctions Pty. Ltd. is being well supported by both growers and buyers, and Mr. G. S. Radley states that so far no difficulty has been experienced in making a daily clearance at full market rates of all consignments received.

This is proving satisfactory from a grower's standpoint and is also much appreciated by the buyers, because, knowing they are purchasing fruit which is absolutely fresh, confidence is gained. Buyers also appreciate receiving dockets covering all their purchases.

Mr. Radley also stated that the measure of the success of auction selling depended entirely upon the measure of support given by growers—the larger the sale, the greater the competition, also the buyers will always follow the fruit.

"Full confidence can be placed by growers in their relationship with us," continued Mr. Radley, "and the support so far accorded is much appreciated."

Leading Agents in the
BRISBANE FRUIT MARKETS

Highest Prices. **A. S. BARR** Prompt Returns.
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Wholesale Fruit Merchant and Growers' Agent.
A Trial Solicited. Returns Speak for Themselves. Shipping No. 19.
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BRISBANE, B.12. GROWERS' AGENTS.
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Bankers: National Bank of Australasia, George St., Brisbane.

MURRAY BROS

CONSIGNING NO. 22 BRISBANE
SECTIONS 5, 41, & 42 ROMA ST., MARKETS

Do not run any Financial Risk with your Fruit but Consign it to
HEDLEY GEEVES PTY. LIMITED
Telegraphic Address: "Apples, Brisbane." (Hedley Geeves, Managing Director) Registered Shipping No. 6.
FRUIT EXCHANGE—BRISBANE
SELECTED AGENTS FOR: Phones: Office B 6218. Residence J 3445. Established 1911.
Victoria: Harcourt Fruitgrowers' Progress Assn. Ltd. Harcourt Fruit Supply Co. Ltd. Victorian Central Citrus Assn. Ltd.
Tasmania: State Fruit Advisory Board.
New South Wales: Griffith Producers' Co-op. Co. Ltd. Batlow Packing House Co-op. Soc. Ltd.

MARKET NOTES AND PRICES

SYDNEY MARKET REPORT —NOVEMBER.

Demand right throughout the month was good for practically all lines of fruit and vegetables.

Supplies, however, were below normal in almost all varieties, and in consequence prices generally were most satisfactory for choice lines.

Apples: There was a shortage of good quality dessert Apples, and while supplies of both Sturmers and French Crabs were available in fair quantities, unfortunately the quality was not good.

During the past week the first of the new seasons Apples, and mainly Allsops, came on the market.

Pears: Supplies were very light indeed and high prices were realised even for lines that could not be considered choice.

Citrus Fruit: Navels continued to arrive from the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and also from South Australia and Victoria. Most lines showed waste and had to be disposed of quickly. Choice lines sold at high rates.

Valencia Oranges showed a marked falling off in supplies as compared with previous years, and with a firm demand prices advanced to a level higher than is usual for November.

Lemons also were in light supply, and rates were higher.

Grapefruit: Supplies of Grapefruit continued to be light, and satisfactory values were obtained for all lines in good condition.

Passionfruit were in very light supply in the early part of the month and high values ruled. As supplies increased, prices came back.

Pineapples were in light supply and satisfactory prices were obtained for fruit in good condition. Inferior lines sold at lower rates.

Papaws: There was a good enquiry for this variety which sold at improved rates.

Cherries: Supplies were plentiful, but were below normal.

Quality generally was, owing to the dry weather, particularly good and prices were satisfactory, especially for choice lines.

Peaches: Supplies so far have only been light, but arrivals are gradually increasing with a definite improvement in quality.

Apricots and Plums also have only been in light supply and mainly of small fruit. Both these varieties will improve both in quality and quantity in the immediate future.

Bananas increased in supply throughout the month with a general easing of prices.

Peas have been in good demand, and with a falling off in supplies, high values have ruled. Good quality peas from Victoria sold readily at good prices.

Beans: There has been a firm enquiry for choice beans which have been light in supply, but poor quality lines have sold at lower rates.

The demand for **Tomatoes** eased off in the middle of the month owing to the cooler weather and prices came back. There has been a better enquiry during the past week.

A fair percentage of the north coast Tomatoes have been badly infected with grub.

All **bunched vegetables** sold well, while **pumpkins** and **swede turnips** realised probably the highest prices for years.

Parsnips also sold at high values.

Supplies of **lettuce** have been fairly plentiful and with a falling off in demand, values eased in the latter part of the month.

General: Unless good rains fall in the near future, it is anticipated that there will be a general shortage of vegetables for the Christmas trade.—P. S. Macdermott, General Secretary, N.S.W. Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries, Sydney, 22/11/40.

Sydney (27/11/40): The following prices are taken from the Marketing Notes issued by the State Marketing Bureau of N.S.W. for the week ended November 27.

Apples. G.S., 6/- to 20/; French Crab (Tas.) and Sturmer (Tas.), 2/- to 5/-; Demo., 4/- to 10/-; Yates (Vic.), 4/- to 11/- case. (Special lines of all varieties of Apples are realising higher rates.)

Oranges: Val., Coastal, 2/6 to 12/-; Irrig. Area, 7/- to 11/- (specials higher); Navel, Vic., 10/- to 14/-. **Lemons:** Coastal, 4/- to 12/-. **Grapefruit:** Coastal, 8/- to 12/-; Inland, 10/- to 12/- (specials dearer), Vict. 11/- to 13/- case.

Bananas: Nines and eights, 11/- to 14/- (few specials higher), Sevens 8/- to 11/-, Sixes 5/- to 8/- (ripe and inferior lower). **Pineapples:** Nth. Qld. 10/- to 13/- (few dearer), Southern Q. 7/- to 11/-. **Papaws,** 8/- to 12/- trop. case.

Peaches, 2/- to 8/-. **Apricots,** 3/- to 8/- (specials 10/-). **Plums,** 2/6 to 8/-. **Passionfruit,** N. Coast and Qld. Choice 10/- to 14/-, other descriptions 7/- to 8/- half case.

Cherries: (Young and Orange) 4/6 to 6/- (specials to 8/-. **Gooseberries,** 4/- to 6/- quarter case.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide (2/12/40): The following prices are supplied by the S.A. Fruitgrowers' and Market Gardeners' Association Inc.:—

Vegetables: Beans, 6/-, 7/- bushel; Beetroot, 1/6 doz.; Cabbages, 3/- to 6/- doz.; Carrots, 3/- doz. bchs.; Cucumbers (green), 16/- case, (Apple), 2/-, 3/- doz.; Leeks, 2/- doz.; Lettuces, 1/6, 2/- doz.; Onions, 13/-, 14/- cwt.; Parsnips, 2/6 doz. bchs.; Peas, 7/- bushel; Potatoes (local) 12/-, 14/- cwt. (W.A.), 14/- cwt.; Rhubarb, Cherry, 9d., 1/- doz. lbs.; Tomatoes, firsts 10/- ½ case, seconds 9/- ½ case; Turnips, 2/6 doz. bchs., Swede, 3/- doz. bchs.

Fruit: Oranges, Common 6/-, Navel 10/-; Lemons, 10/-, 12/- case; Apricots, 5/- ½ case; Peaches, 9/- ½ case; Plums (Japanese), 6/- ½ case; Loquats, 6/- ½ case; Cherries, Light Tartarians 9/- ½ case, Blacks 7/- ½ case; Gooseberries, 4/- ½ case; Strawberries, 10/- doz. lbs.; Raspberries, 6/- doz. lbs.; Bananas, 20/-, 22/- crate; Pineapples, 14/- crate.

COMMONWEALTH CHAMBER OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRIES.

First Annual Conference.

The first annual conference of the Commonwealth Chamber of Fruit and Vegetable Industries was held at Sydney on October 18. Mr. Y. F. Jesser (Brisbane) occupied the chair. Representatives were present from New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland. An apology was received from the South Australian Association.

Election of office-bearers for the ensuing year resulted as follows: President, L. J. Jenkins (N.S.W.); Immediate Past President, Y. F. Jesser (Qld.); Deputy President, H. M. Wade (Victoria); Vice-President, V. Fromen (S. Aust.); Hon. Treasurer, J. Holmes; Hon. Secretary, P. S. MacDermott.

The PRINCIPAL Fruit Merchants and Exporters of SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SILBERT, SHARP & BISHOP LTD.

FRUIT MERCHANTS — EXPORTERS — COMMISSION SALESMEN
BANANA IMPORTERS AND RIPENERS

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All Gardeners' Requirements.
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FRESH FRUIT SPECIALIST
Interstate Representative, Exporter & Commission Agent
Communicate: Box 970 H, G.P.O., Adelaide.
Phone: C 2882. After Hours, L 5395.
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Growers! Consign your Fruit To

H. C. Austin
Wholesale Fruit and Produce Merchant, General Exporter, Commission Agent, Shipping Providor.
Specialty Overseas Export All Countries.
New Market, Union St., Adelaide
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Producers' Co-operative Distributing Society Ltd.

Are now paying a Bonus of 15% on all Commissions charged to regular clients of the Fruit & Vegetable Section for year ending Sept., 1938

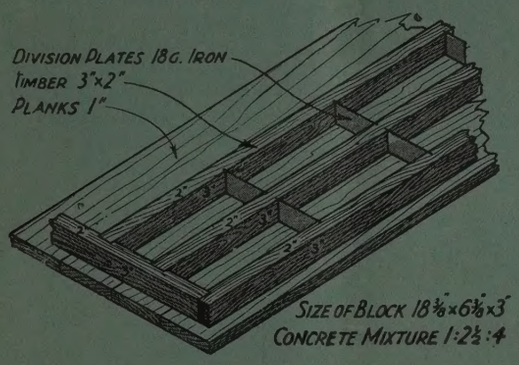
Send Your Consignments TO US

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.

Building With Concrete Blocks

Simple and Cheap

The handy-man orchardist can build a house or a store room at little cost by making cement and rubble or sand blocks. One method of construction is to pour the concrete mixture into wooden moulds making large solid blocks equal to about four standard bricks in size thus making bricklaying quicker and easier. One man made a mould to take concrete mixture for 120 blocks at one time, but a smaller unit of moulds can easily be made by an average bush carpenter.



The inside measurement of the moulds should be 18⅜ x 6⅜ x 3 (equal to 4 ordinary bricks). A floor of 4¼ x ⅞ tongued and grooved hardwood flooring boards, with walls of 4 x 2 hardwood outsides and partitions of 18 gauge flat iron is recommended. The man mentioned above stated that his cost for 500 large concrete blocks, including cost of cement and the labor of two men was £6/6/6 against which 2,000 ordinary bricks, equal to 500 concrete blocks, would have cost him £11 and necessitated extra work in laying the larger number.

The mixture advised is 4 cubic ft. of screenings or gravel, 2½ cubic ft. of clean sand and 1 paper bag (94 lbs.) of cement. The result is waterproof and durable. Further particulars regarding all forms of cement work, fancy or plain, walls, fences, paving, etc., can be obtained from Australian Cement Ltd., 422 Collins-street, Melbourne.

MANGE IN PIGS.

Check it Early.

DEMODECTIC mange is caused by a minute, worm-like mite which lives in the hair follicles and sweat glands of the skin and can result in lessening the market value of the carcass, says a writer in the Queensland Agricultural Journal.

The mites are microscopic in size, measuring only one-hundredth of an inch in length. The lesions of demodectic mange first appear, as a rule, on the snout, eyelids, elbows, and knees. In the initial stages, the areas attacked have a reddened, scurfy appearance with numerous small, hard nodules scattered over them. These become infected with bacteria and begin to ooze pus and serum. The disease gradually spreads over the throat, breast, abdomen, and elsewhere where the skin is soft and thin.

In its early stages, demodectic mange may be checked by frequent applications of crude oil. The disease, however, is very difficult to cope with, and once it appears it is best to get rid of infected animals and to isolate all other animals which have been in contact with them for at least a fortnight. In addition, the sties should be cleaned out thoroughly with boiling water and soda, and then disinfected.

On to the parade ground marched the colonel. He gave a look at the paraded men, rubbed his monocle, and had another look.

"Hang it all," he barked at the captain, "what's the idea of parading all the big men in front of the smaller men?"

"Sorry, sir," explained the captain, "it seems that the sergeant had a fruit stand up to a few months ago."

Home Notes

OILY SKIN.

The frequent use of the powder puff in public, or anywhere else proves that the average woman dislikes an oily skin. This can be corrected by mixing the white of an egg and one oz. of rose water, well shaken in a bottle. After thoroughly cleaning the skin with cold cream and soapy warm water, followed by cold water, and well dried, smooth the above lotion over the skin and let it dry thoroughly. Add another coating of the lotion and rinse off in tepid water followed by cold water.

In the olden days, gentlemen in Rome who desired beautiful skin are said to have annointed themselves with crushed Strawberries. The use of milk and the juices of strange herbs were added to the bath water.

EGG SHAMPOO.

All ladies, and a few men, realise how beneficial it is to use egg shampoo for the hair. It is a good hair conditioner, inexpensive and easy to use. The mixture is as follows: Beat up 4 to 6 eggs, add two teaspoons rum. After thoroughly brushing the hair, rub the shampoo well through the hair and rinse with tepid water. This will be found to retain the natural color and invigorate the hair.

TO TAN SKINS.

A mixture of equal parts salt, alum and Glauber salts and half part of saltpetre will tan skins effectively and prevent the attack of insects on the skins. It should be thoroughly mixed and rubbed on the skins three or four times a day until a satisfactory tan is obtained. If the skin is too hard to absorb the mixture, a little water should be added.

POLLYANNA PASSES.

Some years ago Pollyanna was a popular personage and was quoted as the "be glad" girl who always found some reason for happiness even under the most trying circumstances. Girls' Clubs started all over America bearing the name of Pollyanna Clubs, and their objective was to bring gladness into the lives of people. Recently the originator of Pollyanna passed away after contributing much to the happiness of others.

Pollyanna really did get something out of life as she put something into the lives of others. She was brim-full of fun and was interested in everything she saw and did. She had the happy knack of making even strangers feel at their ease and they left better for having met her, a tribute to a humble but great woman.

TO WASH GLOVES.

When washing gloves that are washable, use mild soap-suds, in only lukewarm water. After satisfied that the dirt is removed, rinse in clean cool water.

When washing chamois, suede, or doe-skin gloves, add a little soap to the rinsing water. This leaves the gloves soft. To dry, place the gloves in a towel and press out the excess water. Hang them in the air away from direct sunlight or artificial heat. When they are almost dry, pull them into shape. A good point is that when washing dark colored suede or doe-skin gloves, turn them inside out before applying the soap, to keep them from streaking.

A slice of Lemon rubbed on cut glass will remove greyishness and restore its lustre.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO FRUITGROWERS

All Members under Fidelity Bond

In response to numerous requests from growers for information as to who are members of the

Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association of Victoria

the following list is given. All are members of the above Association, and are registered firms carrying on business in the

WHOLESALE FRUIT MARKET, MELBOURNE.

STAND NUMBERS ARE AS INDICATED IN PARENTHESES.

T. STOTT & SONS PTY. LTD. (26-36).
H. L. E. LOVETT & CO. (23).
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J. W. ROSS (13).
H. M. WADE & CO. (21).
DAVID SMITH PTY. LTD. (3).
SILBERT SHARP & DAVIES PTY. LTD. (17).
WATKINS FRUIT COMPANY PTY. LTD (5)
G. WOOLF & SONS (29-30).
R. CORNISH & SONS (5).
J. HYMAN & SON (51).
HERBERT WILSON PTY. LTD. (10).
FRANK BOOTH & SONS PTY. LTD. (16).
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TIM YOUNG & CO. PTY. LTD. (18).
F. W. VEAR PTY. LTD. (28).
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H. LOUEY PANG & CO. PTY. LTD. (4).
WING YOUNG & CO. (38).
D. MENTIPLAY & CO. PTY. LTD. (27).
PRICE & KING PTY. LTD. (2).
REGAN & KENNY (Successors to Wm. Sweeney). (33).

Correspondence is invited by the Association.

Office : 21 Wholesale Fruit Market, Queen Street, Melbourne. Phone: F 4866.

Tasmanian News and Notes

Severe Hail Damage

(By Our Correspondent.)

SINCE WRITING my last month's notes, parts of Tasmania have been severely affected by frost and hail.

The Tamar Valley, especially round Exeter and Glengarry, was hit by a severe frost, and the East Tamar and Lilydale districts were also affected, in parts severely. There have been good rains in the north of the State, and until the visitation mentioned above prospects for a good even crop looked bright. Now the indications are that the northern districts won't pick more than half a normal crop.

Some of the southern districts suffered severely from frost in November. Geeveston, Port Cygnet, Crabtree and Mountain River and the Derwent Valley, seem to have suffered severely, while the lower channel district was hit by a severe hail storm. Previous to this the indications were for a good average crop in the South. It is difficult to forecast what the crop will show up like as it is only some districts that were seriously damaged.

Those districts that escaped both late frost and hail look really promising.

Berry fruits in the elevated situations round Sandfly and Longley, were damaged rather badly as the snow was heavy enough to crush Raspberry canes, etc.

Ex Fruitgrower (Surrey Hills) in your November issue has given a fair criticism of the Board's management of the 1940 acquisition scheme. The indecision from start to finish (especially the mode of assessment to be followed and the price to be paid) did a great deal to insure the failure of the scheme from the self supporting point of view and the subsequent action of the Board in fixing prices for the Eastern trade so high resulted in a heavy loss of business, which left more to be consumed in Australia.

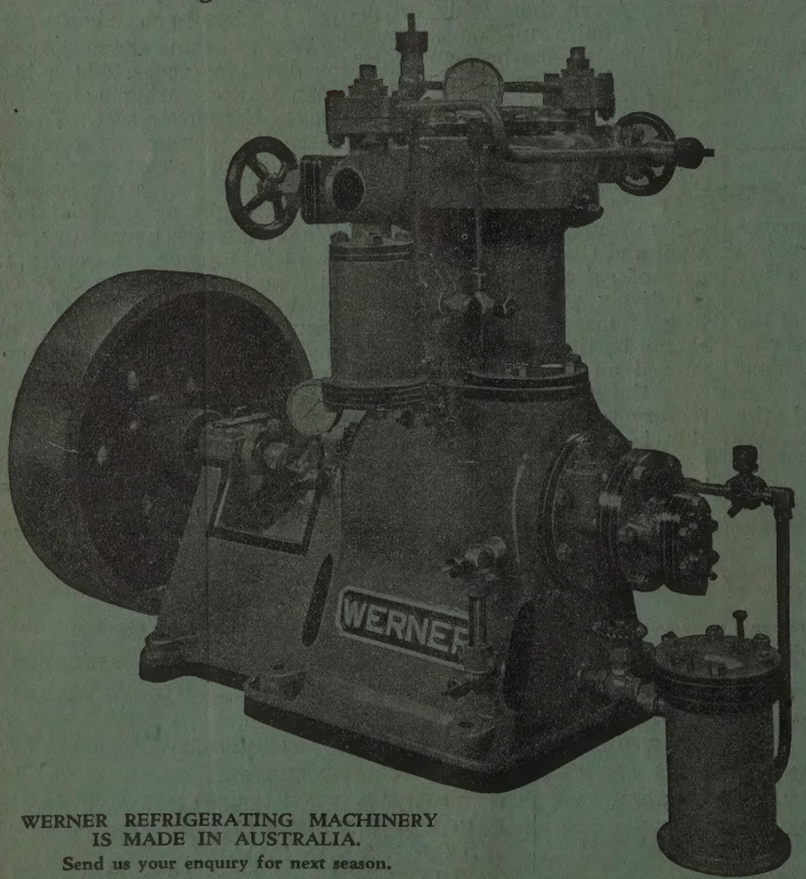
The severe cutting down of exports hits Tasmania and W.A. very severely and they should receive some consideration on this account as all phases of the industry should be taken into consideration in framing any scheme, not the interstate market only.

20/11/40.

"WERNER" PLANTS Refrigerate Over 1½ Million Cases

of Fruit in over 60 Stores throughout the Commonwealth

We design and Install Plants to Store from 500 Cases upwards



Enclosed Type Ammonia Compressor *Suitable for* Full Automatic Control

Direct Expansion *or* Brine Circulation

Type of Compressor made by Werner from 10-ton upwards.

WERNER REFRIGERATING MACHINERY IS MADE IN AUSTRALIA.

Send us your enquiry for next season.

R. WERNER & CO. PTY. LTD.

Refrigerating Engineers

54-86 BURNLEY STREET, - - RICHMOND

'Phones: J 1161 (6 lines).

CITY SHOW ROOM: 610 LITTLE COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE. Phone: MU 6275.

AGENTS—

West. Aust.: Atkins (W.A.) Ltd., 894 Hay St., Perth.
South Aust.: W. J. White, 56 Franklin St., Adelaide.
Tasmania: Noyes Bros., Hobart and Launceston.
N.S.W.: R. J. Lindsay, 99 Kippax Street, Sydney.
Stuart Walker, 174 Clarence Street, Sydney.
Q'land: Garoche Pty. Ltd., Wooloongabba, Brisbane.

AN AUSTRALIAN OIL COMPANY.

A pamphlet issued by the Vacuum Oil Company states that the company is Australian in principle and fact, having been organised in Melbourne in 1895, since when it has grown into the largest oil organisation in the southern hemisphere, as one of Australia's best customers, it spends over a million pounds in Australia every year and buys everything possible in this country.

Its many products include oil sprays for fruit trees and many other products for both primary and secondary Australian industries and employs over 3,000 employees. This company has also spent well over £1,000,000 in an effort to find oil in Australia; 621 Vacuum Oil employees enlisted for military service in the first year of the war, besides many others doing all kinds of voluntary national service. From these facts and others not featured, the company claims that it is "a good Australian."

NEW REGISTRATIONS.

Radley's Auctions Pty. Limited. Reg. 24/10/40. Cap.: £2,000 in £1 shares. Objects: To carry on the business of auctioneers, general agents and land and estate agents, etc. Subscribers: Geoffrey S. Radley, Geoffrey Radley and Edward P. M. Sheedy (1 share each). First directors: Geoffrey S. Radley, Herbert E. Radley and Geoffrey Radley. Reg. office: Sydney.

Grogan Patents Coy., 60 Hunter-street, Sydney, manufacture of insect destruction patent. Com. 11/10/40. Propr.: Francis J. Grogan. Reg. 10/10/40.

CAWTHRON INSTITUTE REPORT.

Valuable Research Work.

Established in 1920, the Cawthron Institute at Nelson, N.Z., has contributed much in research work in recent years. Its main efforts include scientific research in three main directions: (1) soil and nutritional problems of crops, (2) insect control on farms and orchards, also noxious weeds, and (3) fungus diseases of fruit and vegetable crops.

The annual report for 1939, just presented, records important advances in many investigations. These include control of brown spot in Apricots, premature defoliation of Apple trees, top-dressing experiments, soil surveys, seed germination and sterilisation, chemistry of tobacco, white ant problems, fertilizer tests and various other studies in fruit research.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

A good medium Apple crop is showing at present in S. Australia; the crop is estimated at between 1,000,000 and 1,100,000 bushels. Pears are light—estimated crop 150,000 bushels.

Printed by the Horticultural Press Pty. Ltd. for the Fruit World Pty. Ltd., Registered Office 8-10 Orr Street, Melbourne; and at 439 Kent Street, Sydney.